MANOJ CHITRA KATHA

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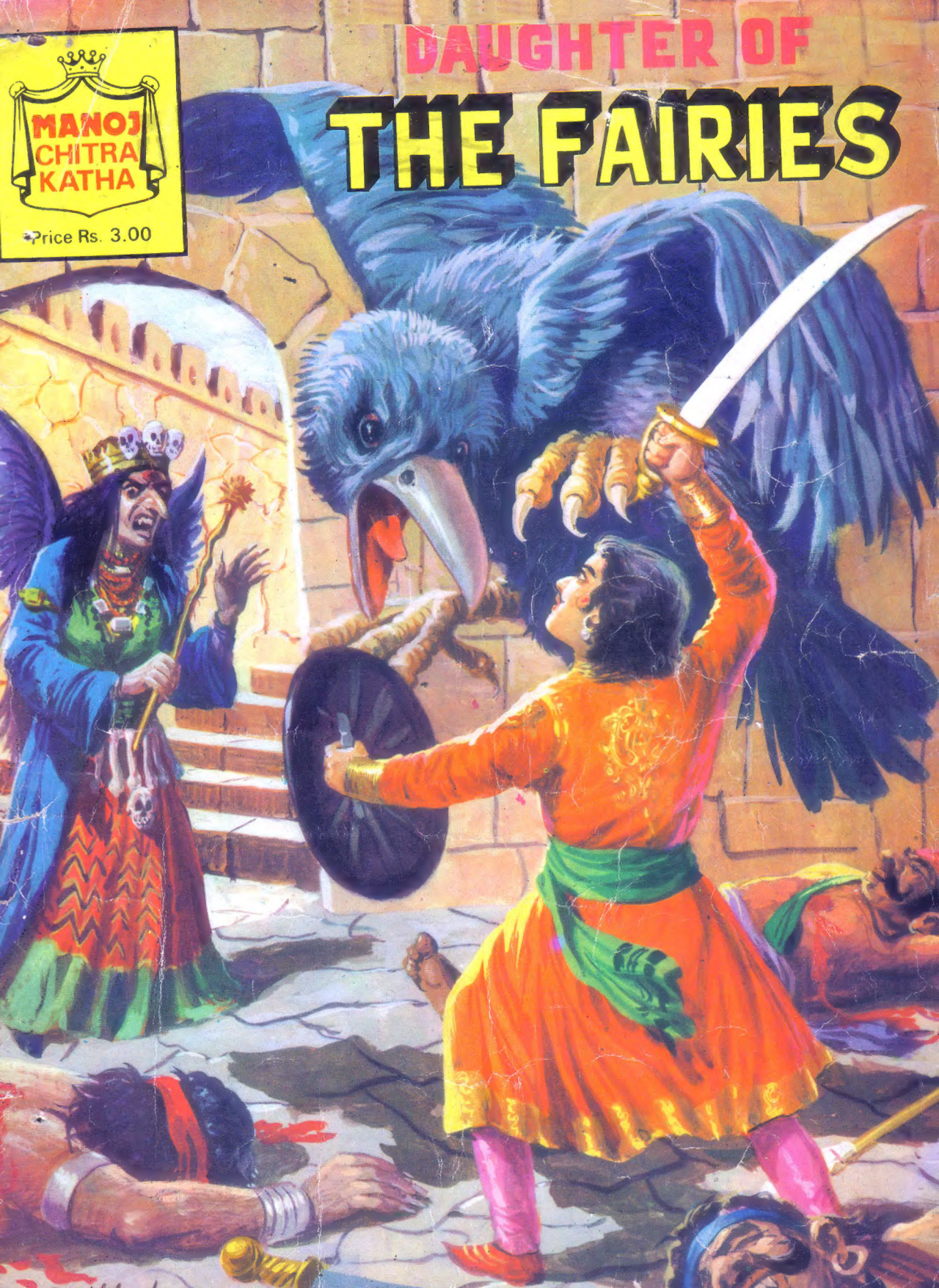
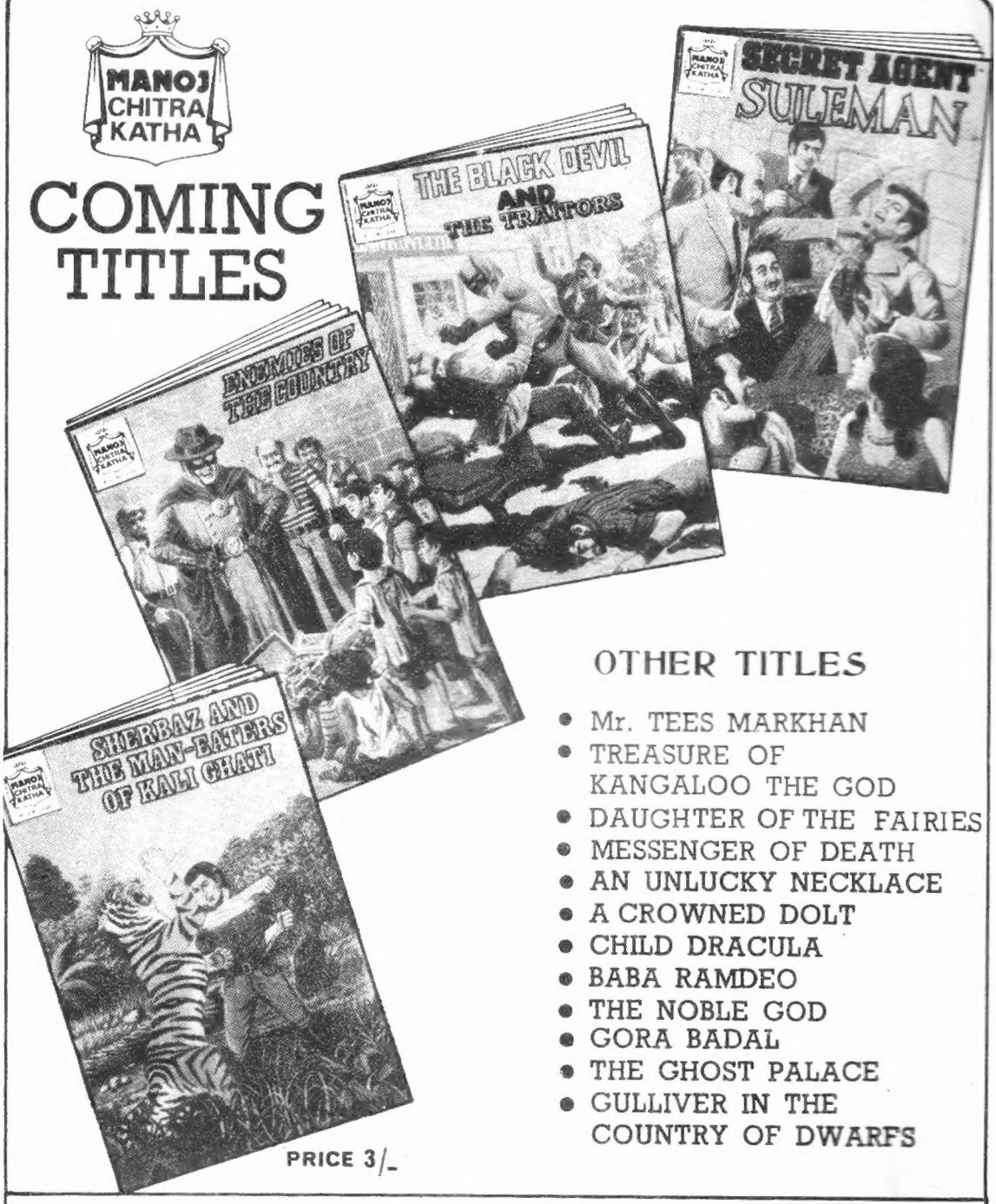
DAUGHTER OF THE FAIRIES



MANOJ CHITRA KATHA

COMING TITLES



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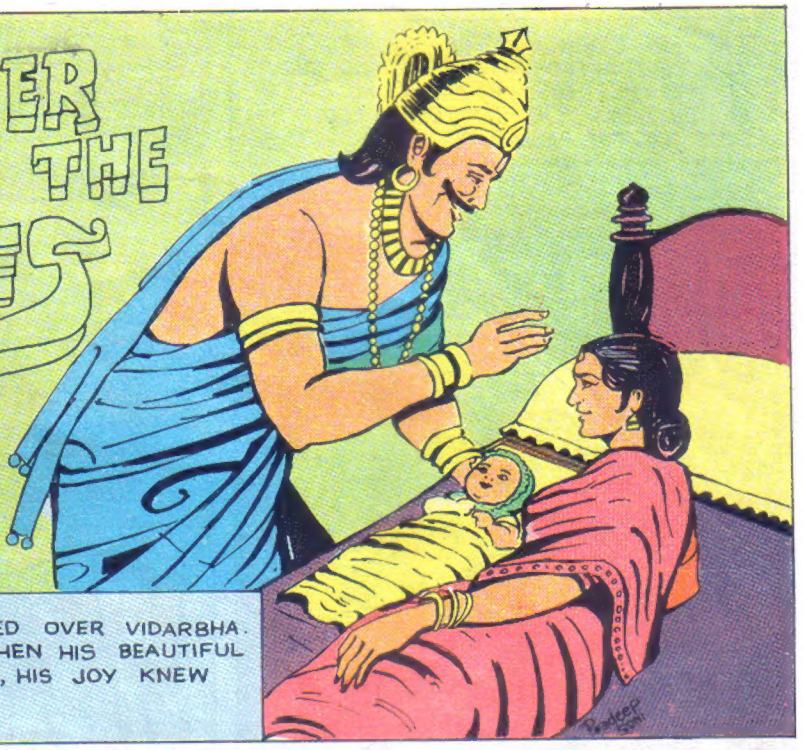
DAUGHTER OF THE FAIRIES



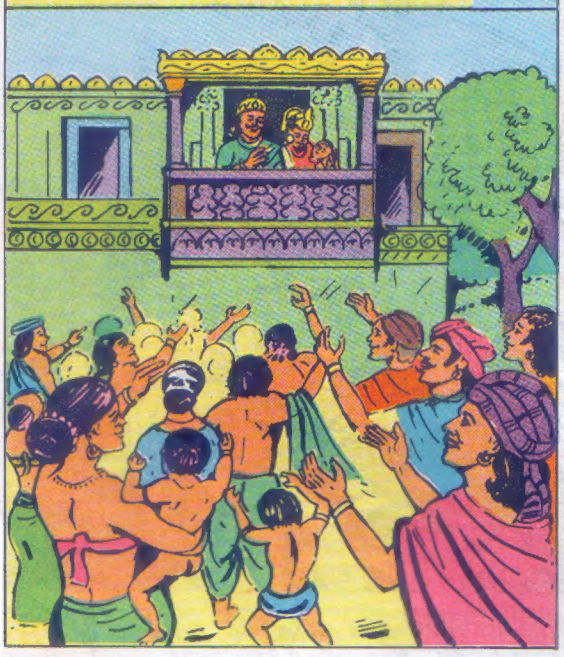
KING CHANDRA SEN REIGNED OVER VIDARBHA. AFTER MANY YEARS WHEN HIS BEAUTIFUL WIFE BORE A DAUGHTER, HIS JOY KNEW NO BOUNDS.

HIS SUBJECTS DANCED WITH JOY WHEN THEY HEARD OF THE BIRTH OF THE PRINCESS.

PEOPLE DISTRIBUTED SWEETS TO ONE ANOTHER, DANCED AND MADE MERRY.

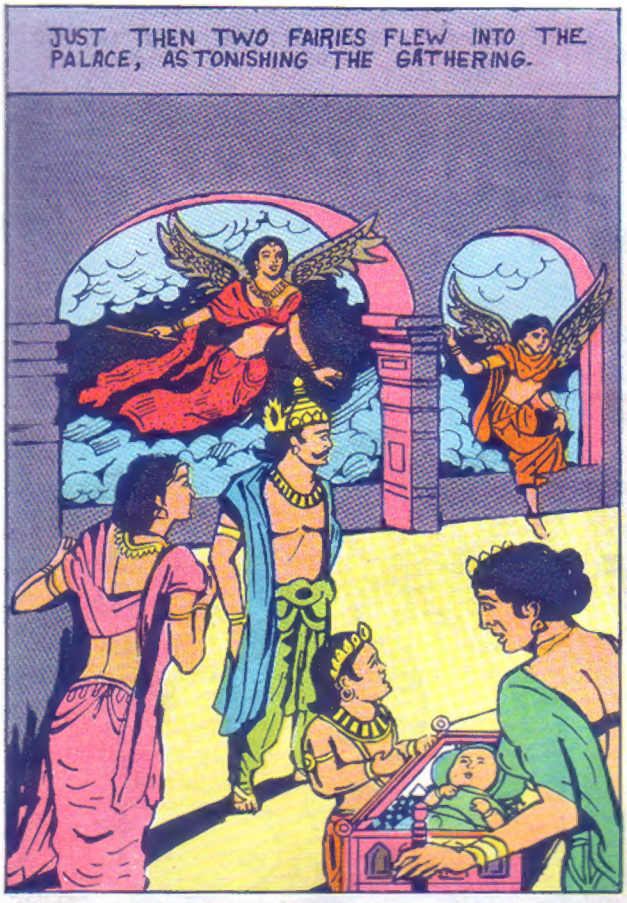
THE HAPPIEST WAS, OF COURSE, THE MOTHER, QUEEN TARA.

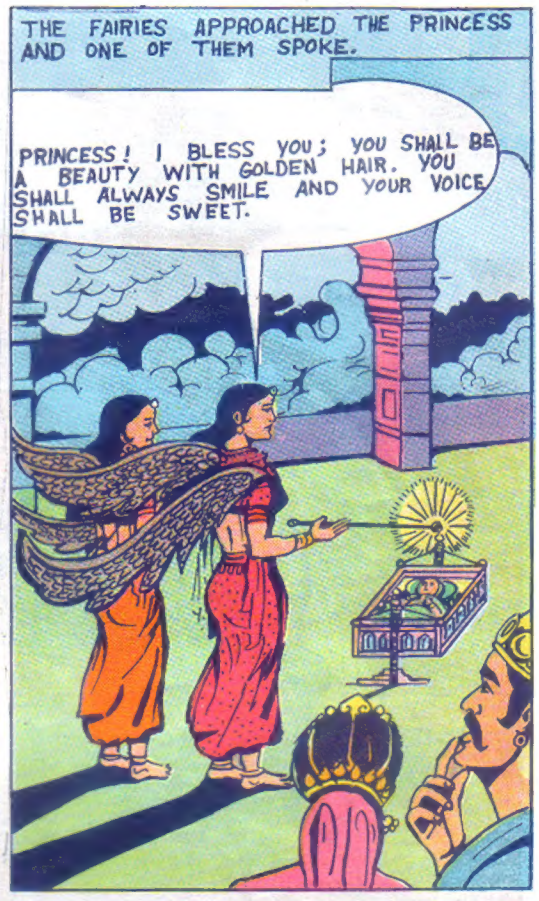
THE FIRST BIRTHDAY OF THE PRINCESS WAS CELEBRATED WITH POMP AND SHOW. IT WAS DECLARED A PUBLIC HOLIDAY SO THAT ALL THE SUBJECTS COULD COME TO THE PALACE AND BLESS HER.



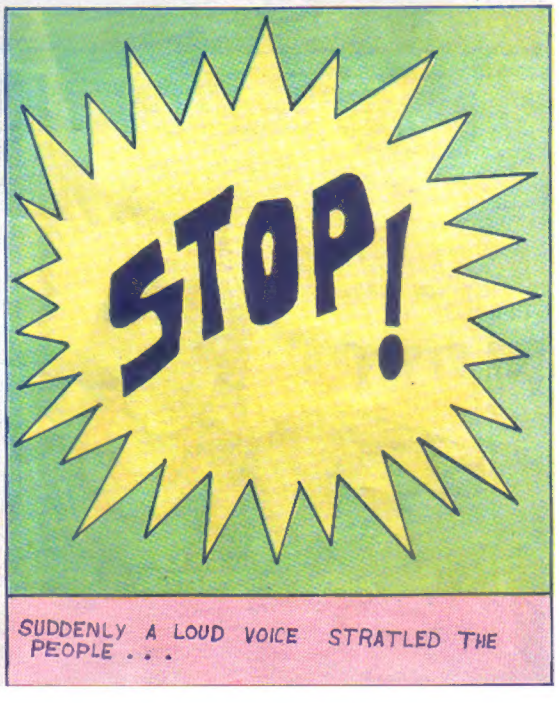
WHEN THE CELEBRATIONS STARTED, THE SUBJECTS APPROACHED THE CRADLE AND BLESSED THE PRINCESS.

KING SAMAR SINGH, A FRIEND OF KING CHANDRA SEN, CAME TO JOIN THE FESTIVITIES WITH HIS FAMILY.


JUST THEN TWO FAIRIES FLEW INTO THE PALACE, ASTONISHING THE GATHERING.


THE FAIRIES APPROACHED THE PRINCESS AND ONE OF THEM SPOKE.
PRINCESS! I BLESS YOU; YOU SHALL BE A BEAUTY WITH GOLDEN HAIR. YOU SHALL ALWAYS SMILE AND YOUR VOICE SHALL BE SWEET.

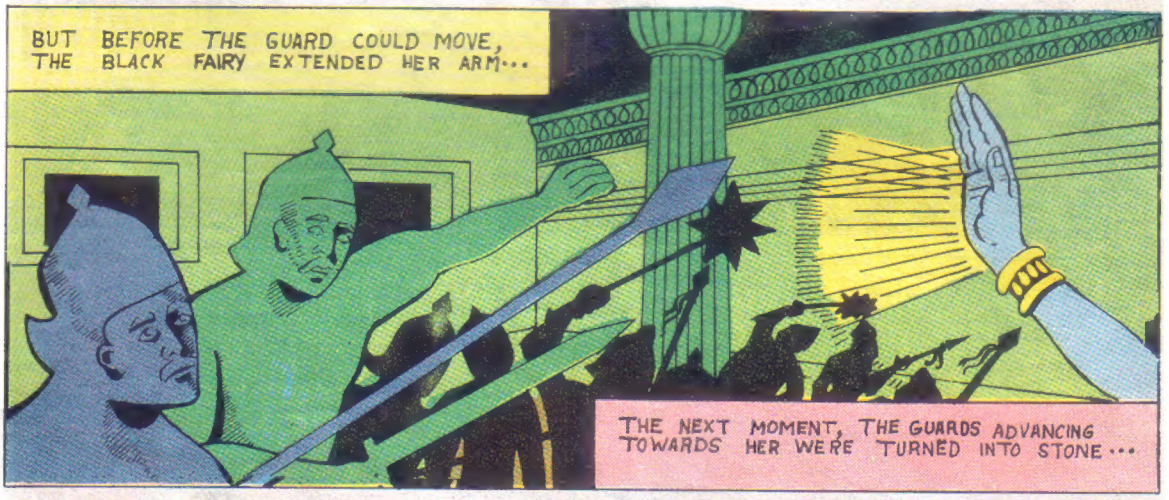
THE OTHER FAIRY SPOKE.
AND THIS IS MY PRESENT TO YOU...

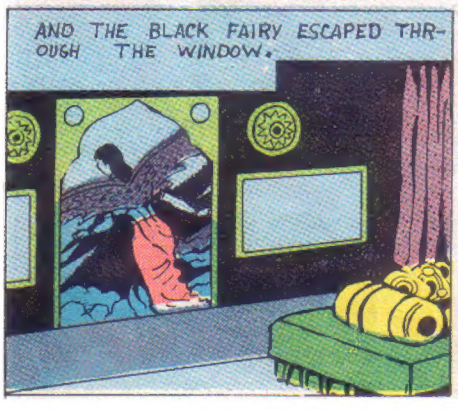

STOP!
SUDDENLY A LOUD VOICE STRATLED THE PEOPLE . . .

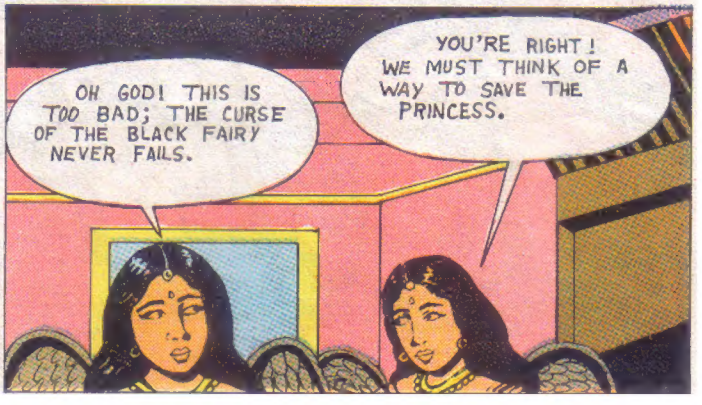
A STRANGE LIGHT APPEARED IN THE COURT. A STRONG GUST OF WIND SHOOK THE CHANDLIERS. THE BOOM OF LIGHTNING COULD BE HEARD. OUT OF T. LIGHT EMERGED A BLACK SHADOW TAKING THE SHAPE OF A FAIRY.
TAKE MY PRESENT TOO!
THE BLACK FAIRY EXTENDED HER ARM TO TEN FEET TO BLESS THE INFANT PRINCESS.
SHE WILL BE ENDOWED WITH ALL QUALITIES, BEAUTY AND SHALL BE POPULAR, BUT . . .
BUT, WHAT?
BUT ON HER SIXTEENTH BIRTHDAY, BEFORE THE SUN SETS, HER FINGER WILL BE PIERCED BY THE SEWING MACHINE AND SHE WILL DIE.
WHO ARE YOU? WHAT HAVE WE DONE TO YOU THAT YOU CURSE OUR CHILD SO?
DON'T YOU KNOW? I AM THE BLACK FAIRY, O QUEEN. I LIVE IN THE BANYAN TREE NEAR THE POND. ALL YOUR SUBJECTS WORSHIP ME, BUT YOU HAVE INSULTED ME BY NOT INVITING ME TO THE FESTIVITIES ON THE PRINCESS'S BIRTHDAY.
OH!

GUARDS! ARREST THIS SHE-DEVIL!

HA... HA... HA... YOU CAN'T CATCH ME.


BUT BEFORE THE GUARD COULD MOVE, THE BLACK FAIRY EXTENDED HER ARM...
THE NEXT MOMENT, THE GUARDS ADVANCING TOWARDS HER WERE TURNED INTO STONE...


AND THE BLACK FAIRY ESCAPED THROUGH THE WINDOW.


OH GOD! THIS IS TOO BAD; THE CURSE OF THE BLACK FAIRY NEVER FAILS.
YOU'RE RIGHT! WE MUST THINK OF A WAY TO SAVE THE PRINCESS.

SURE, BUT FIRST WE MUST RESTORE THESE POOR GUARDS WHOM SHE HAS TURNED TO STONE THROUGH HER MAGIC.
SURELY!
THE FAIRY WAVED HER WAND OVER THE PETRIFIED GUARDS.
AND THEY REGAINED THEIR LIVES.
THE MOMENT SHE CAME TO, QUEEN TARA DEVI TOOK THE PRINCESS TO HER ROOM. THE FAIRIES FOLLOWED HER.
I HAVE YET TO BLESS HER, YOUR MAJESTY!
OH! IT IS YOU!
YOU DO NOT KNOW US. WE ARE BOTH FAIRIES WHO LIVE IN YOUR KINGDOM. WE DO GOOD TO THE PEOPLE. I AM IRAWATI AND THIS IS MALAVIKA.
WE HAVE COME TO BLESS YOUR CHILD. FINDING US HERE, THE BLACK FAIRY THOUGHT THAT YOU HAD INVITED US BUT NOT HER AND SHE BECAME JEALOUS.
HOW GOOD YOU ARE! BUT IS IT TRUE THAT THE CURSE OF THE BLACK FAIRY ALWAYS HURTS?

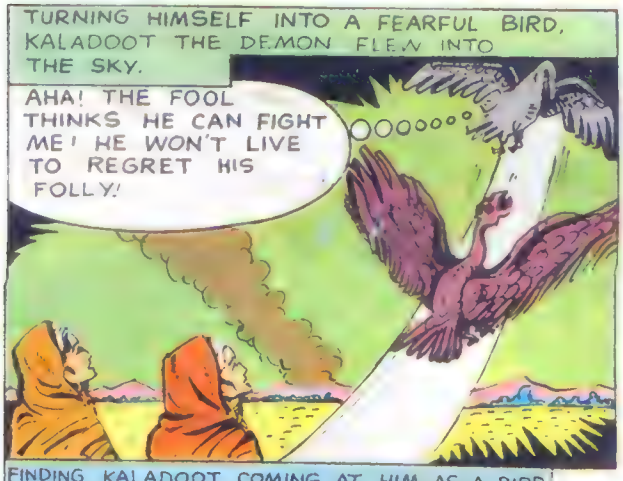
THE EVIL PEOPLE CANNOT THINK OF ANYTHING GOOD!
DON'T YOU WORRY! WE SHALL GUARD THE PRINCESS
FROM TODAY THE PRINCESS IS OUR DAUGHTER TOO!
THE SECOND FAIRY WAVED HER WAND OVER THE PRINCESS AND SAID...
WHEN THE NEEDLE OF THE SEWING-MACHINE PIERCES YOUR FINGER, YOU SHALL NOT DIE... BUT FALL IN DEEP SLEEP. THE PRINCE WHO LOVES YOU MOST SHALL TOUCH YOU AND YOU SHALL AWAKE.
WHEN THE FAIRIES WERE ABOUT TO LEAVE, QUEEN TARA DEVI CALLED THEM..
JUST A MOMENT.
DID YOU ADDRESS US, YOUR MAJESTY?
PLEASE DON'T LEAVE US. THE BLACK FAIRY MAY AGAIN TROUBLE US.
ALL RIGHT, YOUR MAJESTY! WE SHALL STAY.

KING CHANDRA SEN WAS DISCUSSING WAYS TO STOP THE BLACK FAIRY WITH HIS FRIEND SAMAR SINGH.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
WE CAN DO ONE THING. LET'S BURN ALL SEWING MACHINES IN THE STATE.
KING CHANDRA SEN LIKED THE SUGGESTION. CALLING HIS MINISTER HE TOLD HIM WHAT TO DO AND THE ROYAL COMMAND WAS SPREAD THROUGOUT THE EMPIRE. THE PEOPLE BROUGHT THEIR SEWING MACHINES AND PUT THEM IN THE FLAMES. AS HE WATCHED FROM THE ROOF OF HIS PALACE NEXT DAY.

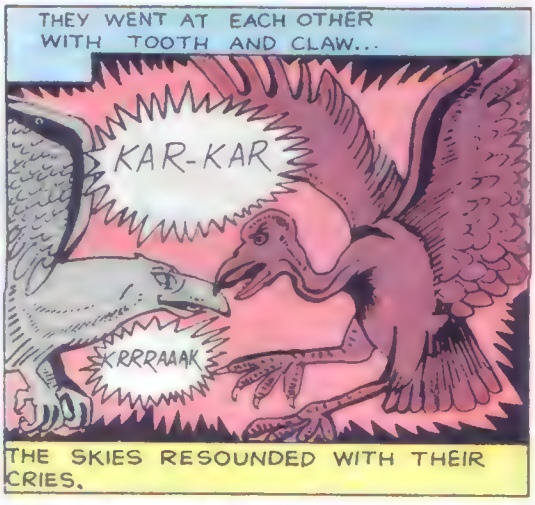
FROM THE WINDOW OF THE PALACE, THE TWO FAIRIES WATCHED THE FLAMES...
IRAWATI, CAN THE PRINCESS ESCAPE THE CURSE OF THE BLACK FAIRY IF ALL THE SEWING MACHINES ARE BURNT?
NO, IT IS NOT A WISE STEP; THE BLACK FAIRY IS VERY CLEVER, SHE WILL FIND A WAY!
YOU'RE RIGHT, SISTER!
BUT WE'RE NOT ANY LESS CLEVER. I HAVE THOUGHT OF A WAY TO SAVE THE PRINCESS.
AND WHAT IS THAT?
LET'S DISGUISE OURSELVES AS VILLAGE WOMEN AND TAKE THE PRINCESS TO VILLAGE KALIDAS, FAR FROM HERE. IF WE RAISE HER LIKE AN ORDINARY GIRL, THE BLACK FAIRY WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW. HOW CAN SHE MAKE HER CURSE COME TRUE?
YOU ARE RIGHT! BUT HOW CAN WE BRING UP THE PRINCESS AS AN ORDINARY GIRL WITHOUT USING OUR MAGIC?
WE'LL FIND A WAY. WE HAVE TO DO IT TO SAVE THE PRINCESS.
GOOD! WE HAVE ACCEPTED CHANDRIKA AS OUR DAUGHTER. WE MUST DO EVERYTHING TO SAVE HER. LET'S GO TALK TO THE QUEEN.

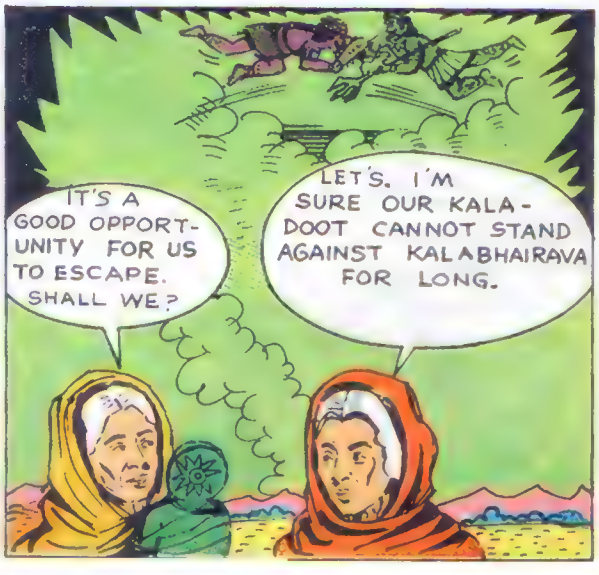
THE FAIRIES WENT TO THE QUEEN AND TOLD HER ABOUT THEIR PLAN
DON'T GRIEVE YOUR MAJESTY! WE'LL LOVE AND CHERISH THE PRINCESS LIKE OUR DAUGHTER. THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO SAVE HER.
WHEN THERE IS NO OTHER WAY HOW CAN I OBJECT? OH, BUT HOW CAN I CONSOLE MY HEART WHICH CRIES FOR MY CHILD?
DON'T CRY DARLING! IT IS FOR THE GOOD OF OUR CHILD. EVERYTHING WILL TURN OUT TO BE FOR THE BEST.
DRESSED AS MIDDLE-AGED WOMEN, THE TWO FAIRIES TOOK THE PRINCESS AND WENT OUT OF THE BACK DOOR OF THE PALACE.
BUT NOTHING WAS HIDDEN FROM THE BLACK FAIRY. SHE WAS WATCHING IN HER MAGIC CRYSTAL.
H'M! THAT IS WHAT THESE FOOLISH FAIRIES ARE UP TO!
BUT WHERE CAN THESE FOOLS TAKE THE PRINCESS? I'LL FIND THEM EVEN IF THEY DIG A HOLE IN THE GROUND TO HIDE IN. MY CURSE SHALL NOT GO IN VAIN. BUT I MUST LOOK OUT FOR THE PRINCE TOO WHO WILL FALL IN LOVE WITH THE PRINCESS, 'CAUSE OF THE BOON GIVEN BY THE FAIRIES, FOOLS THAT THEY ARE!

THE BLACK FAIRY CALLED HER SLAVE, THE DEVILISH CROW...
KALBHAIRAVA! GO AND FOLLOW THE FAIRIES AND FIND OUT WHERE THEY GO.
YES, MISTRESS!
THE CROW, KALABHAIRAVA, FLEW AWAY
RETURN ONLY WHEN YOU KNOW WHERE THEY ARE GOING!
SOON, THE CROW ESPIED THE FAIRIES...
THERE THEY ARE! PROBABLY THEY ARE GOING TO THE RED MOUNTAIN THROUGH THE JUNGLE.
THE FAIRIES WERE ALERT AND NOTICED THE CROW FLYING OVER THEM.
LOOK! THIS CROW HAS BEEN FOLLOWING US FOR SOME TIME.
OH, THIS IS THE SLAVE OF THE BLACK FAIRY, KALBHAIRAVA. I AM SURE SHE KNOWS OF OUR PLANS.
THE FAIRIES WERE PERTURBED WHEN THEY KNEW ABOUT THE CROW.
TOO BAD! HOW DO WE GET RID OF HIM? OUR MAGIC IS POWERLESS AGAINST HIM AND THE BLACK FAIRY KNOWS OF OUR DESTINATION IF WE CAN'T GET RID OF THIS DAMNED CROW!
THEY'VE PROBABLY NOTICED ME, BUT NO MATTER.
YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT THERE'S NO HARM IN TRYING.

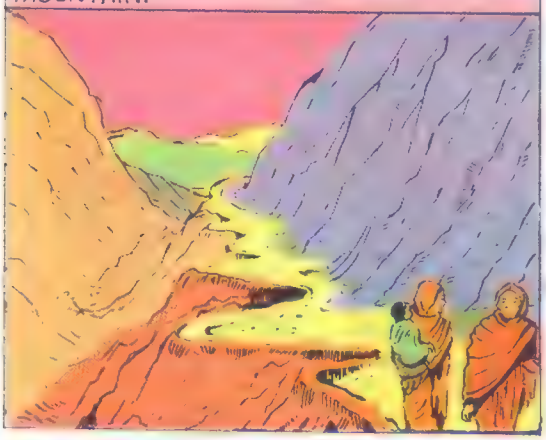

TURNING HIMSELF INTO A FEARFUL BIRD, KALADOOT THE DEMON FLEW INTO THE SKY.
AHA! THE FOOL THINKS HE CAN FIGHT ME! HE WON'T LIVE TO REGRET HIS FOLLY!
OOOOOO°

FINDING KALADOOT COMING AT HIM AS A BIRD, THE CROW KALABHAIRAVA ALSO ASSUMED THE SHAPE OF A WARRIOR. THE TWO OF THEM WENT AT EACH OTHER HAMMER AND TONGS.





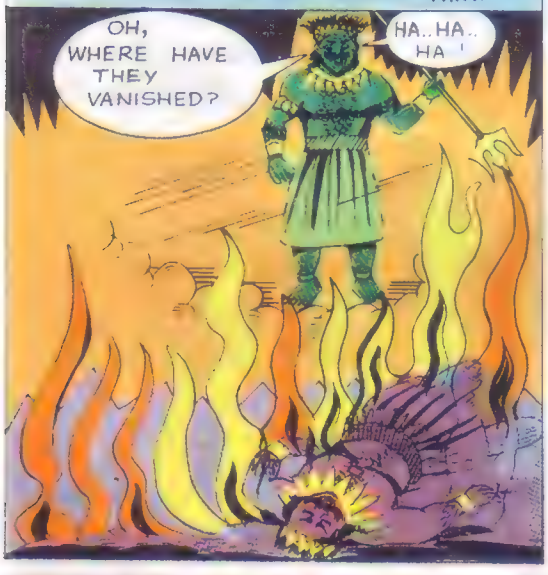
SOON THE FAIRIES REACHED THE RED MOUNTAIN.



THE FAIRIES WERE RIGHT. KALADOOT COULD NOT STAND AGAINST THE KALABHAIRAVA FOR LONG...

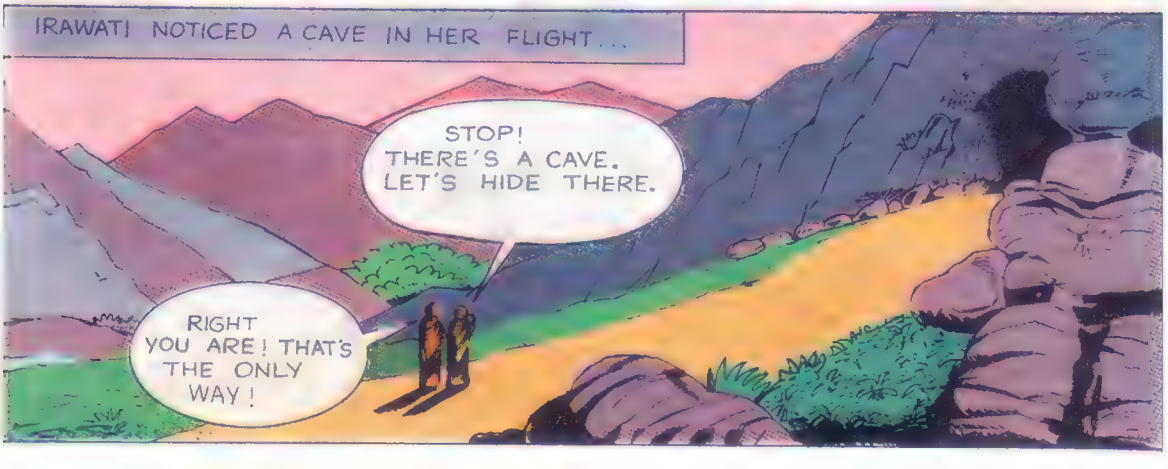
KALABHAIRAVA KILLED THE KALADOOT AND THREW HIM TO THE GROUND.

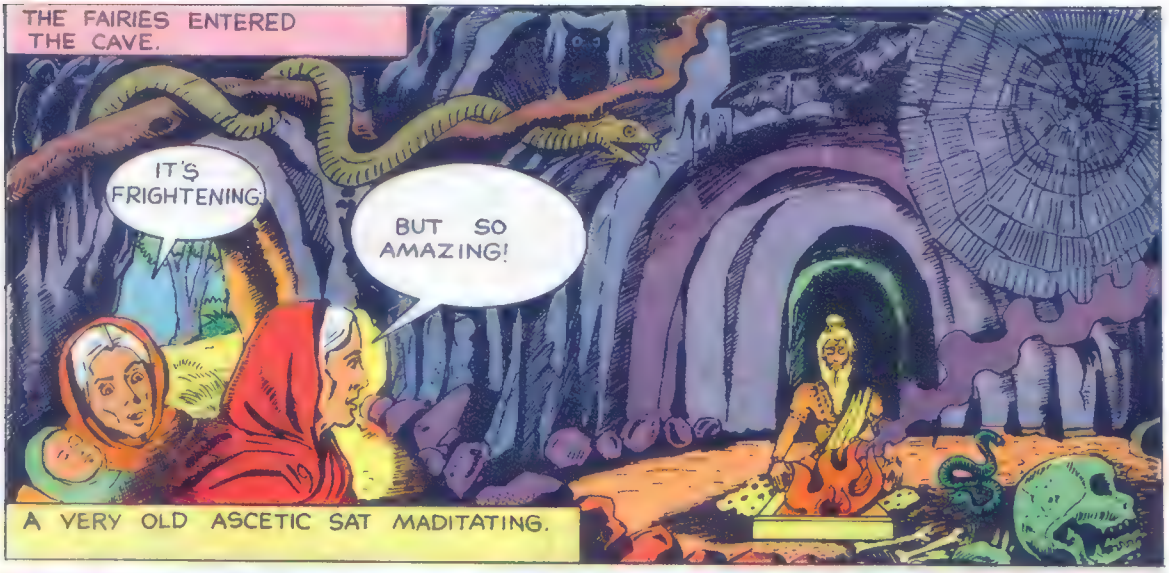
THERE WAS A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION WHEN KALADOOT FELL TO THE GRO-UND. THE FLAMES CONSUMED HIM.

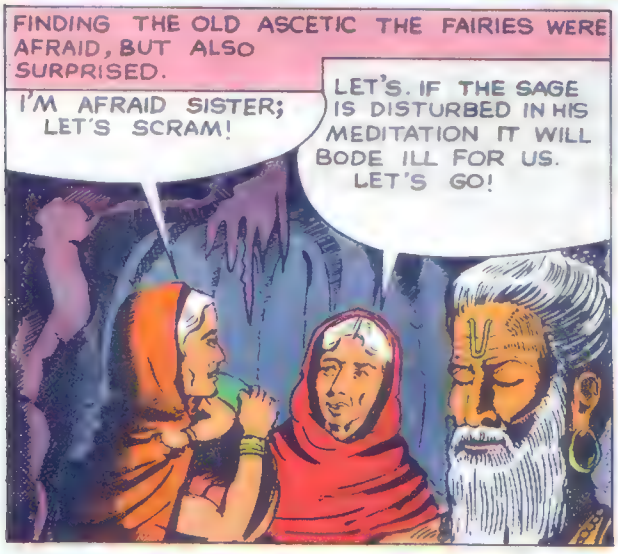


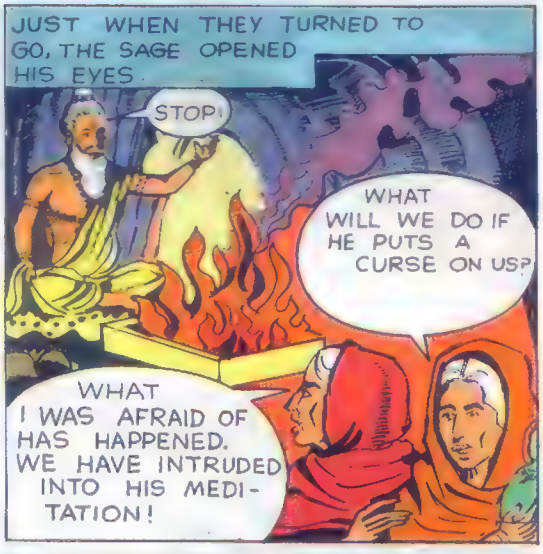
THE FRIGHTENED FAIRIES RAN ALONG A NARROW GORGE IN THE RED MOUNTAIN.

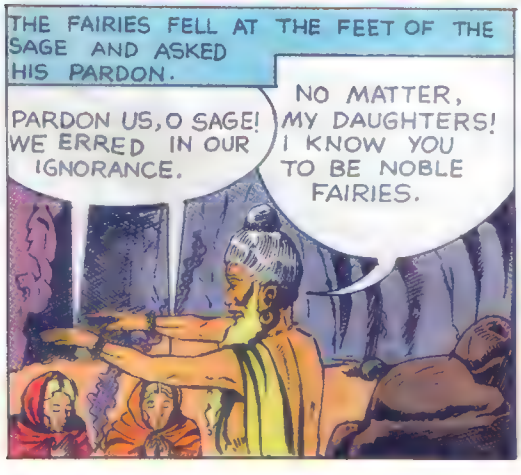
IRAWATI NOTICED A CAVE IN HER FLIGHT...

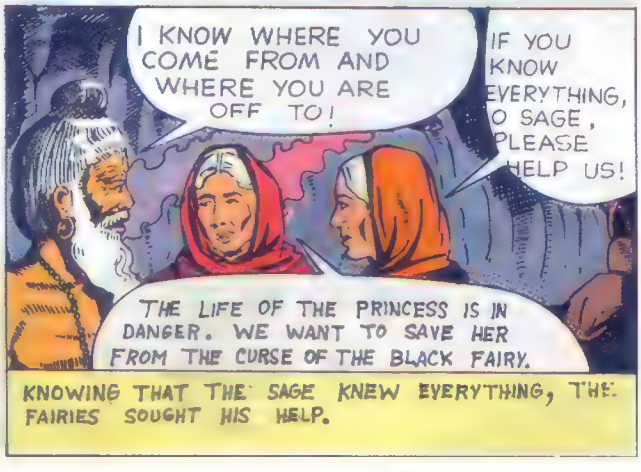



THE FAIRIES ENTERED THE CAVE.
IT'S FRIGHTENING!
BUT SO AMAZING!
A VERY OLD ASCETIC SAT MADITATING.


FINDING THE OLD ASCETIC THE FAIRIES WERE AFRAID, BUT ALSO SURPRISED.
I'M AFRAID SISTER; LET'S SCRAM!
LET'S. IF THE SAGE IS DISTURBED IN HIS MEDITATION IT WILL BODE ILL FOR US. LET'S GO!


JUST WHEN THEY TURNED TO GO, THE SAGE OPENED HIS EYES.
STOP!
WHAT WILL WE DO IF HE PUTS A CURSE ON US?
WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF HAS HAPPENED. WE HAVE INTRUDED INTO HIS MEDITATION!


THE FAIRIES FELL AT THE FEET OF THE SAGE AND ASKED HIS PARDON.
PARDON US, O SAGE! WE ERRED IN OUR IGNORANCE.
NO MATTER, MY DAUGHTERS! I KNOW YOU TO BE NOBLE FAIRIES.

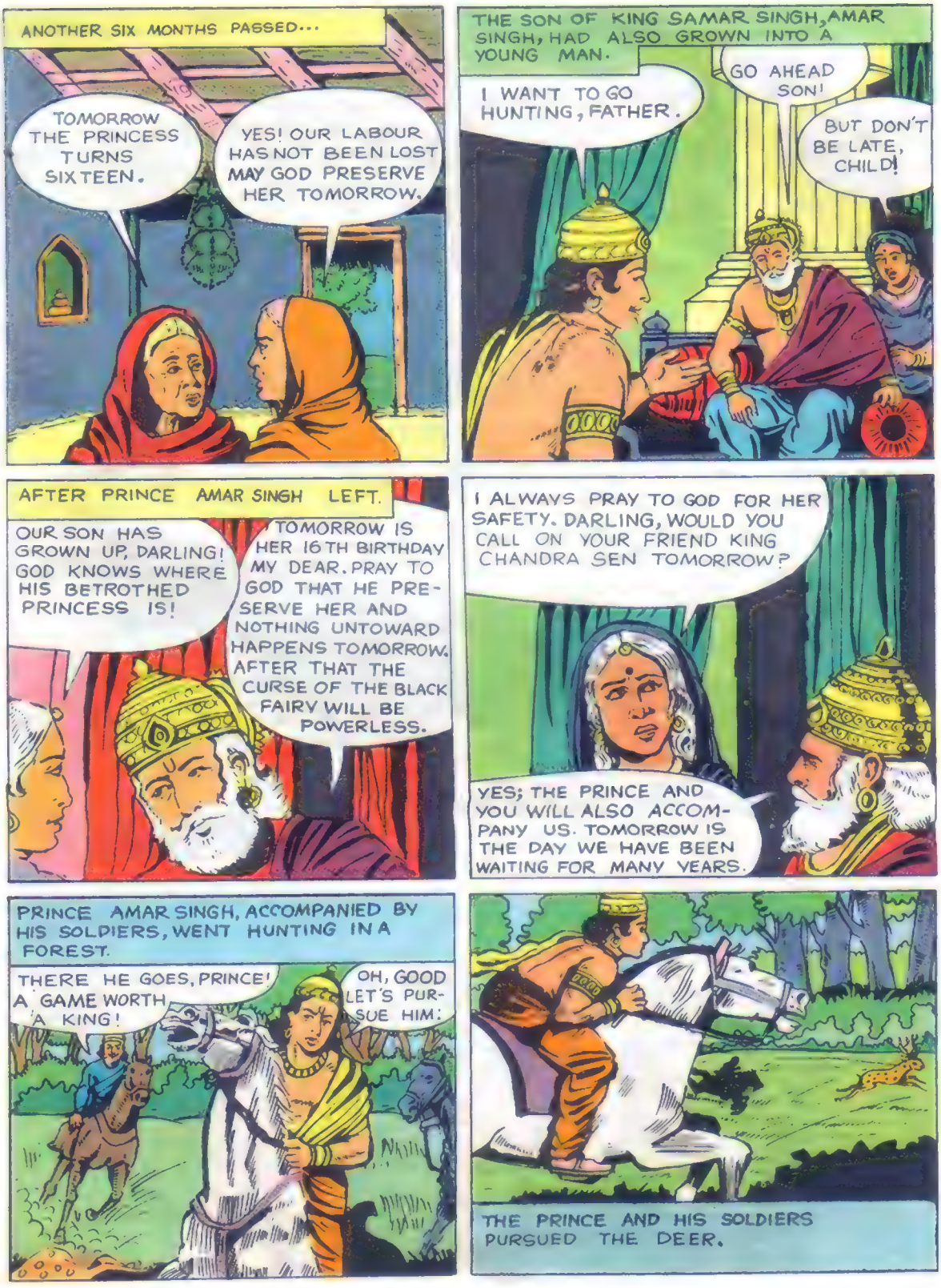

I KNOW WHERE YOU COME FROM AND WHERE YOU ARE OFF TO!
IF YOU KNOW EVERYTHING, O SAGE, PLEASE HELP US!
THE LIFE OF THE PRINCESS IS IN DANGER. WE WANT TO SAVE HER FROM THE CURSE OF THE BLACK FAIRY.
KNOWING THAT THE SAGE KNEW EVERYTHING, THE FAIRIES SOUGHT HIS HELP.

O NOBLE FAIRIES I KNOW EVERYTHING, BUT I'M SORRY THAT I CAN'T FREE THE PRINCESS FROM THE BLACK FAIRY'S CURSE. I CAN, HOWEVER, HELP YOU TO GET AWAY. THE DEVILISH CROW CAN'T FOLLOW YOU FROM HERE ONWARDS.
WE SHALL BE THANKFUL TO YOU.
GO AND ENTER THIS TUNNEL AND YOU WILL REACH THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RED MOUNTAIN FROM WHERE THE VILLAGE KALIDAS IS NOT FAR OFF.
WE'LL NEVER FORGET THIS KINDNESS, O WISE SAGE!
THE FAIRIES ENTERED THE TUNNEL...
DON'T WORRY, MY DAUGHTERS! THE CROW CAN'T CROSS THE RED MOUNTAIN.
WHEN KALABHAIRAVA REACHED THE RED MOUNTAIN IN SEARCH OF THE FAIRIES.
OH, THE HEAT! MY WHOLE BODY IS ON FIRE.
SUDDENLY TALL FLAMES ISSUED FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOPS.
FRIGHTENED NOW, HE RESUMED THE SHAPE OF A CROW AND FLEW BACK.
THE FLAMES WON'T LET ME CROSS THE RED MOUNTAIN. IF I TRY I'LL BE BURNT TO CINDERS. LET ME GO BACK AND REPORT TO THE BLACK FAIRY.
KALBHAIRAVA WENT TO THE BLACK FAIRY.
PLEASE PARDON ME MISTRESS!
WHATEVER HAPPENED, KALA-BHAIRAVA? WHY ARE YOU FRIGHTENED?

KALABHAIRAVA ASSUMED HIS ORIGINAL SHAPE AND TOLD THE WHOLE STORY.
THE TALL FLAMES RISING OUT OF THE RED MOUNTAIN DID NOT LET ME CROSS. METHINKS THERE IS A MAGICIAN IN THE MOUNTAIN WHO HELPED THE FAIRIES TO ESCAPE.
THE BLACK FAIRY FLEW INTO ANGER.
WHOSOEVER HE IS, HE WILL BE PUNISHED FOR COMING IN MY WAY!
STAY HERE TILL I COME BACK!
AT YOUR COMMAND.
GOING TO THE OTHER ROOM, THE BLACK FAIRY APPROACHED HER MAGIC CRYSTAL.
O MAGIC CRYSTAL TELL ME WHO IS THE MAGICIAN ON THE RED MOUNTAIN WHO HAS BEEN FOOL ENOUGH TO INTERFERE WITH MY PLANS.
THE RED MOUNTAIN APPEARED ON THE CRYSTAL.
LOOKS LIKE A FRAUD!
O CRYSTAL TELL ME WHO IS THIS FOOL OF A SAGE?
BUT THE CRYSTAL HAD LOST IT'S TOUCH. THE SCENE ON IT DISAPPEARED.
OH, MY MAGIC CRYSTAL HAS LOST ITS POWER. IT HAS NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE. THERE MUST BE A REASON.

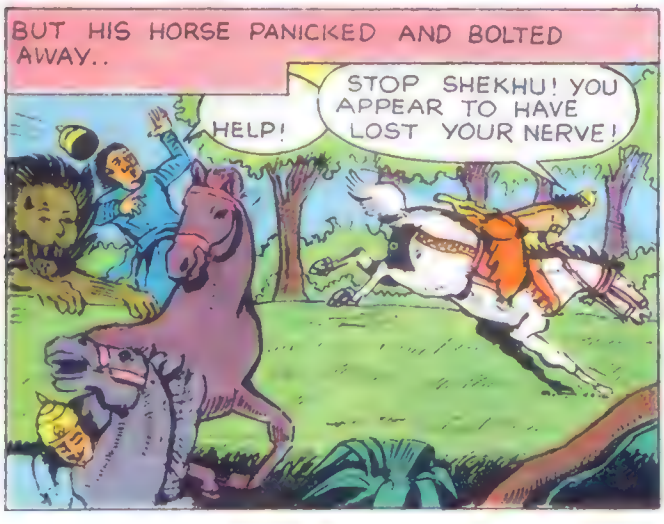
THE MAGIC OF THE SAGE APPEARS TO BE STRONGER THAN MY CRYSTAL. BUT, NO MATTER; MY MAGIC PUPPET WILL SURELY ANSWER MY QUESTIONS.
THE BLACK FAIRY WENT TO ANOTHER ROOM...
O MAGICAL PUPPET. TELL ME! WHO IS THE SAGE ON THE RED MOUNTAIN?
THE PUPPET SPOKE...
HE IS SAGE GORAKH-NATH WITH ETERNAL POWERS NONE CAN DESTROY!
WHAT IS THE SEC-RET OF HIS DEATH?
YOUR MAGIC 'LL BE POWERLESS IN HIS TERRITORY.
BUT I CAN KILL HIM WITH MY DEMONIC POWERS!
DON'T MAKE THAT MISTAKE, BLACK FAIRY! OR, YOU'LL LOSE ALL YOUR MAGICAL POWERS.
THEN, YOU TELL ME, MY PUPPET! HOW CAN ONE CROSS THE RED MOUNTAIN?
IF I CAN'T FIND THE PRINCESS, WHO'LL WORSHIP ME? WHO'LL PAY HOMAGE TO ME OR MY MAGIC? PEOPLE WILL LAUGH AT ME.
WAIT FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT, BLACK FAIRY! YOU'LL MEET A PRINCE ONE DAY. HE WILL HELP YOU TO CROSS THE RED MOUNTAIN AND ALSO TELL YOU THE WAY TO REACH THE PRINCESS.

BUT REMEMBER, IT WOULD BE THE SAME PRINCE WHO WOULD PUT LIFE BACK INTO THE PRINCESS CURSED BY YOU.
OH!
THE PUPPET RELAPSED INTO SILENCE AND THE BLACK FAIRY WAS IMMERSED IN THOUGHT.
TIME PASSED. YEAR FOLLOWED YEAR...
FIFTEEN YEARS HAVE PASSED AND SIXTEENTH HAS STARTED BUT THE PRINCE HAS NOT APPEARED AS THE PUPPET FORETOLD.
KING CHANDRA SEN AND QUEEN TARADEVI HAD GROWN OLD. EACH PASSING YEAR WAS TORTURE TO THEM IN THE ABSENCE OF THEIR DAUGHTER.
YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE I SAW MY DAUGHTER. WOULD THAT I HAD DIED!
HUSH DARLING! PATIENCE! ONLY ONE OF THE SIXTEEN YEARS REMAINS TO PASS.
GOD KNOWS HOW OUR DAUGHTER IS!
BROUGHT UP IN A SMALL HUT IN THE VILLAGE, PRINCESS CHANDRIKA HAD GROWN INTO A BEAUTY ONLY A FEW MONTHS BEFORE HER 16TH YEAR..
WHAT A SWEET VOICE!
OH MY DARLING! I PINE FOR YOU.. ...FOR YOU...
AHA!
THE FAIRIES - MALAVIKA AND IRAWATI - HAD BROUGHT UP THE PRINCESS WITH LOVE.


ANOTHER SIX MONTHS PASSED...
TOMORROW THE PRINCESS TURNS SIXTEEN.
YES! OUR LABOUR HAS NOT BEEN LOST MAY GOD PRESERVE HER TOMORROW.
THE SON OF KING SAMAR SINGH, AMAR SINGH, HAD ALSO GROWN INTO A YOUNG MAN.
I WANT TO GO HUNTING, FATHER.
GO AHEAD SON!
BUT DON'T BE LATE, CHILD!
AFTER PRINCE AMAR SINGH LEFT.
OUR SON HAS GROWN UP, DARLING! GOD KNOWS WHERE HIS BETROTHED PRINCESS IS!
TOMORROW IS HER 16TH BIRTHDAY MY DEAR. PRAY TO GOD THAT HE PRESERVE HER AND NOTHING UNTOWARD HAPPENS TOMORROW. AFTER THAT THE CURSE OF THE BLACK FAIRY WILL BE POWERLESS.
I ALWAYS PRAY TO GOD FOR HER SAFETY. DARLING, WOULD YOU CALL ON YOUR FRIEND KING CHANDRA SEN TOMORROW?
YES; THE PRINCE AND YOU WILL ALSO ACCOMPANY US. TOMORROW IS THE DAY WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR MANY YEARS.
PRINCE AMAR SINGH, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS SOLDIERS, WENT HUNTING IN A FOREST.
THERE HE GOES, PRINCE! A GAME WORTH A KING!
OH, GOOD LET'S PURSUE HIM!
THE PRINCE AND HIS SOLDIERS PURSUED THE DEER.

JUST THEN...
WE 'RE SUNK!
OH, IT IS THE ROAR OF A LION..
G.R.R..R..R...
TAKE CARE, A LION IS NEARBY!

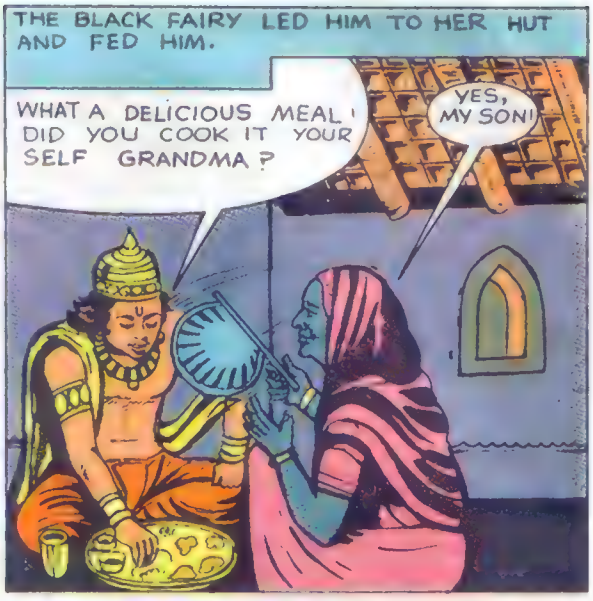
BUT BEFORE THE PRINCE AND HIS SOLDIERS COULD FIND THE DIRECTION FROM WHERE ROARS WERE COMING, A LION AND A LIONESS POUNCED UPON THEM.
OH!
E-E-K
HELP!
DONT PANIC! FIGHT BACK!
THE PRINCE PULLED HIS SWORD OUT...

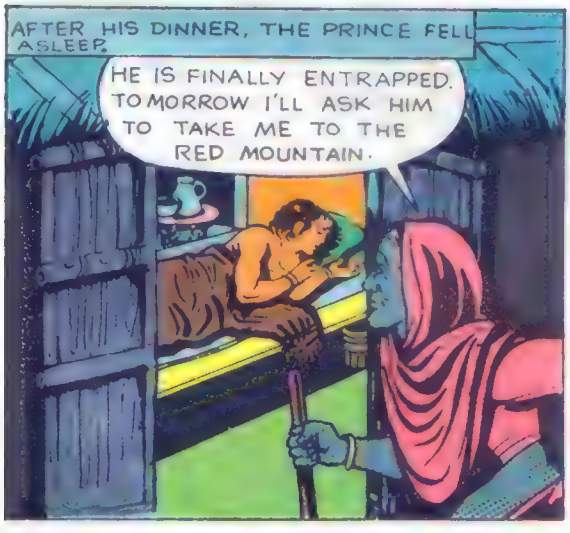

BUT HIS HORSE PANICKED AND BOLTED AWAY..
HELP!
STOP SHEKHU! YOU APPEAR TO HAVE LOST YOUR NERVE!

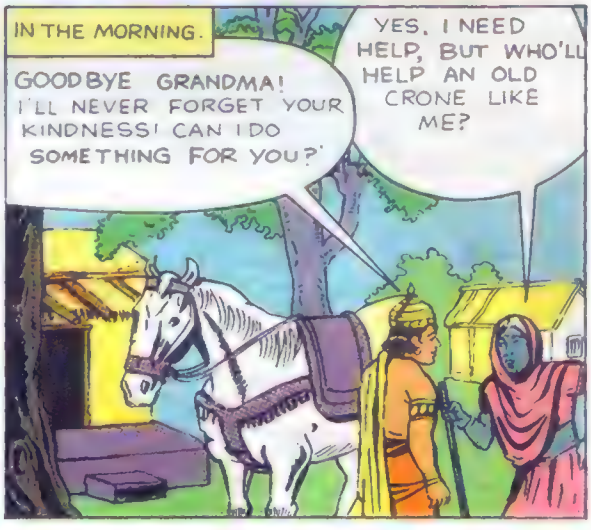
AFTER THE HORSE WAS TIRED, IT STOPPED.
IT'S A STRANGE PLACE; I DON'T KNOW WHERE I AM. THE SUN IS ABOUT TO SET. WHAT'LL I DO?

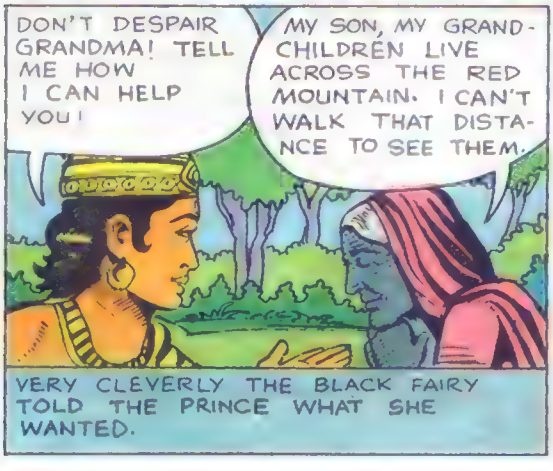
THE BLACK FAIRY STOOD BEFORE HER PUPPET.
O PUPPET! TOMORROW THE PRINCESS WILL BE SIXTEEN. TELL ME WHEN THE PRINCE WILL COME? WHEN WILL BE THE TIME?
THE TIME HAS COME FAIRY! GO AND LOOK INTO YOUR CRYSTAL BALL.
THE BLACK FAIRY WENT TO HER CRYSTAL BALL.
TELL ME, CRYSTAL BALL! WHERE WILL I FIND THE PRINCE?
A JUNGLE SCENE EMERGED
H'M. SO THIS IS THE PRINCE! I'LL ENTRAP HIM.
AND THE NEXT MOMENT THE BLACK FAIRY REACHED THE JUNGLE WITH HER MAGICAL POWERS.
OH! I AM TERRIBLY HUNGRY AND THIRSTY. DON'T KNOW WHEN THE JUNGLE WILL END.
HE IS COMING THIS SIDE! I'LL TURN INTO A WEAK OLD WOMAN TO ATTRACT HIS ATTENTION.
THE BLACK FAIRY TURNED INTO A WEAK, OLD WOMAN. LEANING ON HER STAFF, SHE APPROACHED THE PRINCE.
WHO'S THIS OLD WOMAN? LET ME STOP HER; SHE MAY GUIDE ME OUT OF THE JUNGLE.
STOP GRANDMA!
THAT WAS WHAT THE FAIRY WANTED, BUT HIDING HER HAPPINESS SHE SPOKE
WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME, MY SON? AND WHO ARE YOU?
I AM PRINCE AMAR-SINGH. I'VE LOST MY WAY. CAN YOU GUIDE ME?
THE PRINCE RELATED HIS STORY.

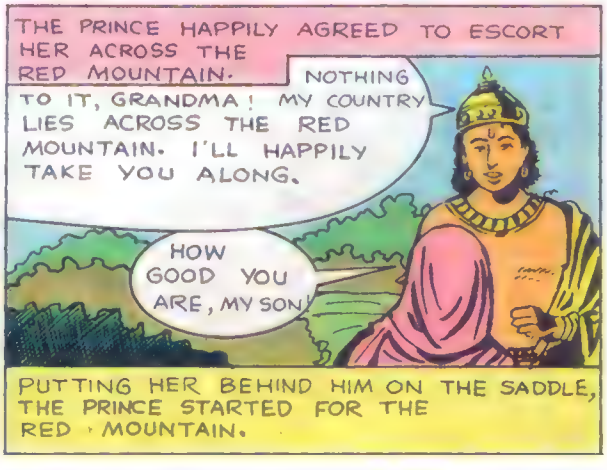
AFTER HEARING THE TALE OF THE PRINCE, THE BLACK FAIRY SPOKE.
SURELY, MY SON! THE NIGHT IS FALLING AND THE WAY IS NOT WITHOUT ITS DANGERS. YOU CAN'T RETURN HOME. WHY DON'T YOU SPEND THE NIGHT IN MY HUMBLE HUT. EAT SOMETHING AND YOU CAN LEAVE IN THE MORNING.
CAN'T REFUSE GRANDMA! YOU ARE A NOBLE SOUL!
THE PRINCE READILY AGREED.

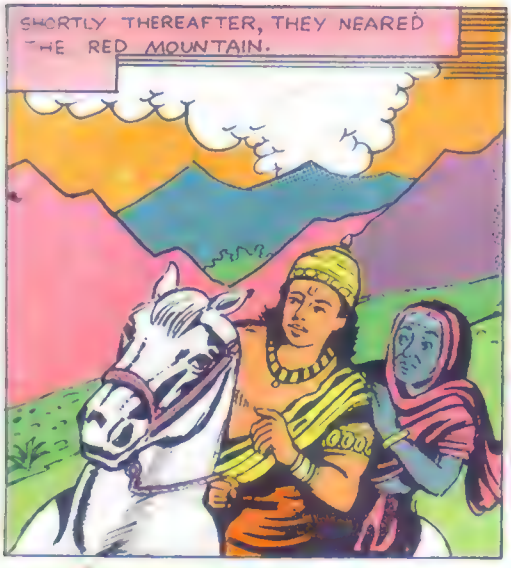

THE BLACK FAIRY LED HIM TO HER HUT AND FED HIM.
WHAT A DELICIOUS MEAL! DID YOU COOK IT YOUR SELF GRANDMA?
YES, MY SON!

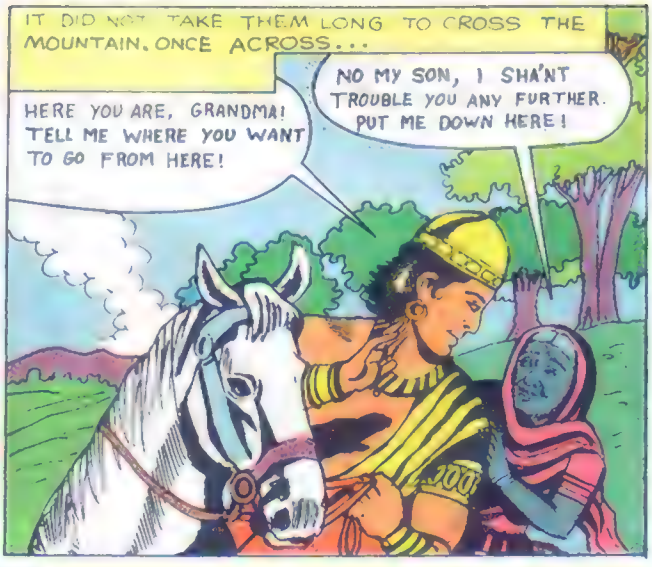

AFTER HIS DINNER, THE PRINCE FELL ASLEEP.
HE IS FINALLY ENTRAPPED. TOMORROW I'LL ASK HIM TO TAKE ME TO THE RED MOUNTAIN.

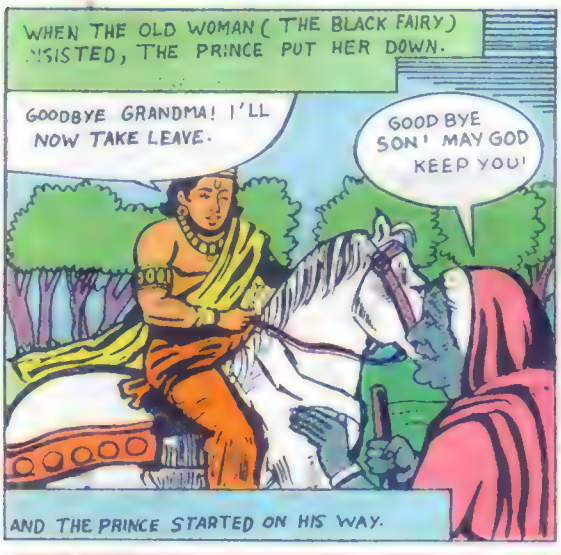

IN THE MORNING.
GOODBYE GRANDMA! I'LL NEVER FORGET YOUR KINDNESS! CAN I DO SOMETHING FOR YOU?
YES, I NEED HELP, BUT WHO'LL HELP AN OLD CRONE LIKE ME?

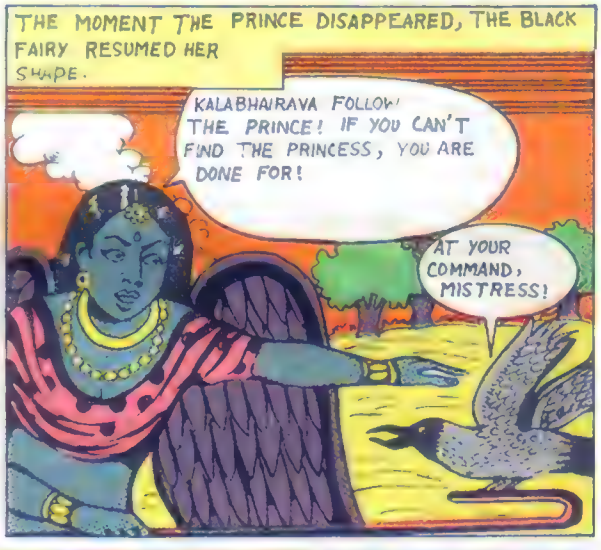

DON'T DESPAIR GRANDMA! TELL ME HOW I CAN HELP YOU!
MY SON, MY GRAND-CHILDREN LIVE ACROSS THE RED MOUNTAIN. I CAN'T WALK THAT DISTANCE TO SEE THEM.
VERY CLEVERLY THE BLACK FAIRY TOLD THE PRINCE WHAT SHE WANTED.

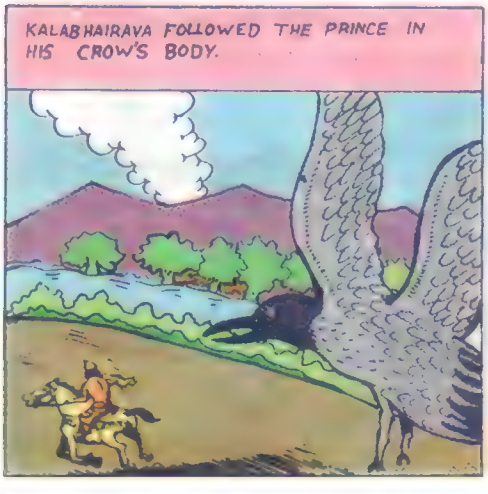

THE PRINCE HAPPILY AGREED TO ESCORT HER ACROSS THE RED MOUNTAIN.
NOTHING TO IT, GRANDMA! MY COUNTRY LIES ACROSS THE RED MOUNTAIN. I'LL HAPPILY TAKE YOU ALONG.
HOW GOOD YOU ARE, MY SON!
PUTTING HER BEHIND HIM ON THE SADDLE, THE PRINCE STARTED FOR THE RED MOUNTAIN.

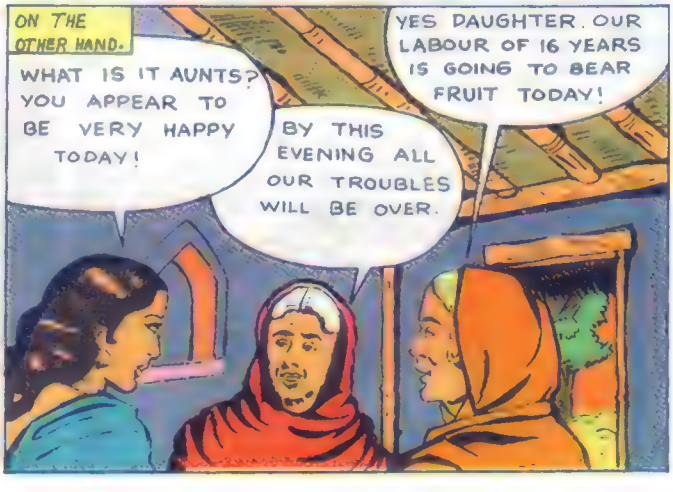

SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THEY NEARED THE RED MOUNTAIN.

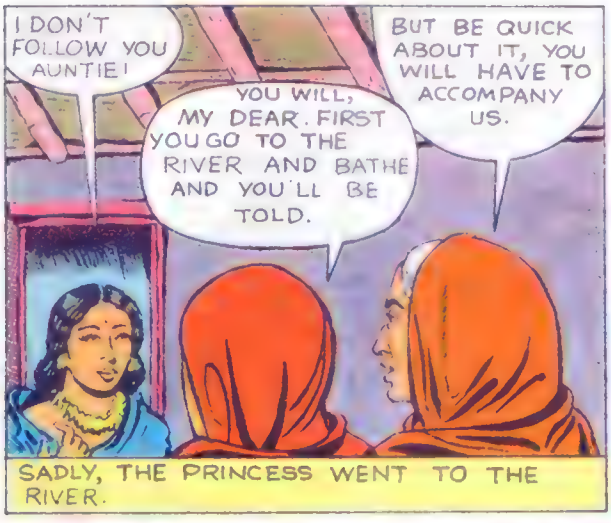

IT DID NOT TAKE THEM LONG TO CROSS THE MOUNTAIN. ONCE ACROSS...
HERE YOU ARE, GRANDMA! TELL ME WHERE YOU WANT TO GO FROM HERE!
NO MY SON, I SHA'NT TROUBLE YOU ANY FURTHER. PUT ME DOWN HERE!

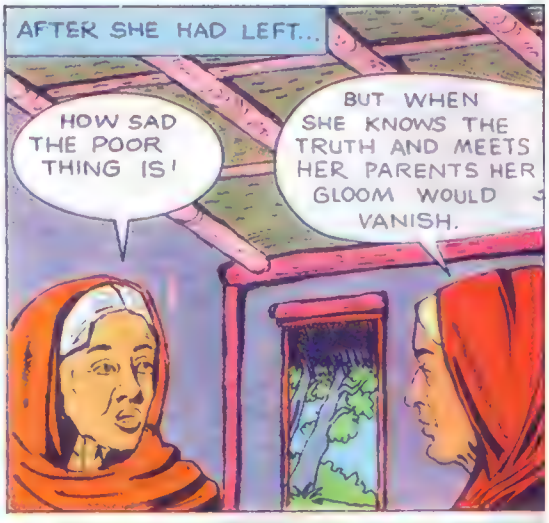

WHEN THE OLD WOMAN (THE BLACK FAIRY) INSISTED, THE PRINCE PUT HER DOWN.
GOODBYE GRANDMA! I'LL NOW TAKE LEAVE.
GOOD BYE SON! MAY GOD KEEP YOU!
AND THE PRINCE STARTED ON HIS WAY.

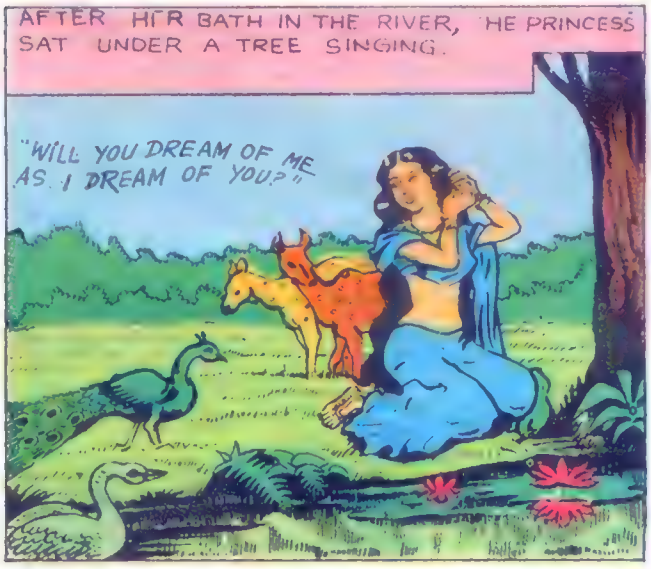

THE MOMENT THE PRINCE DISAPPEARED, THE BLACK FAIRY RESUMED HER SHAPE.
KALABHAIRAVA FOLLOW THE PRINCE! IF YOU CAN'T FIND THE PRINCESS, YOU ARE DONE FOR!
AT YOUR COMMAND, MISTRESS!


KALABHAIRAVA FOLLOWED THE PRINCE IN HIS CROW'S BODY.

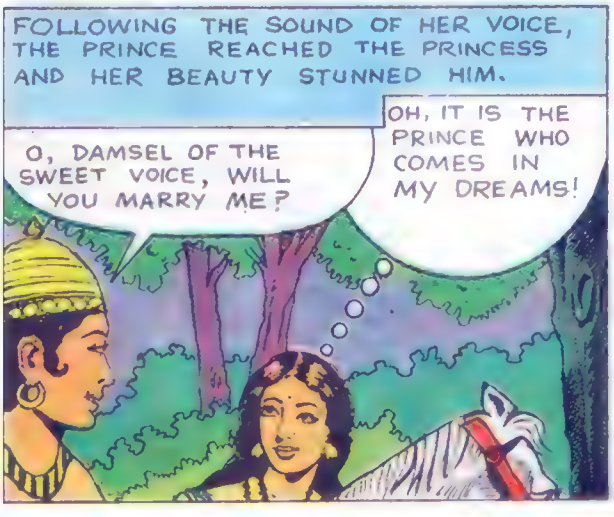

ON THE OTHER HAND.
WHAT IS IT AUNTS? YOU APPEAR TO BE VERY HAPPY TODAY!
BY THIS EVENING ALL OUR TROUBLES WILL BE OVER.
YES DAUGHTER. OUR LABOUR OF 16 YEARS IS GOING TO BEAR FRUIT TODAY!

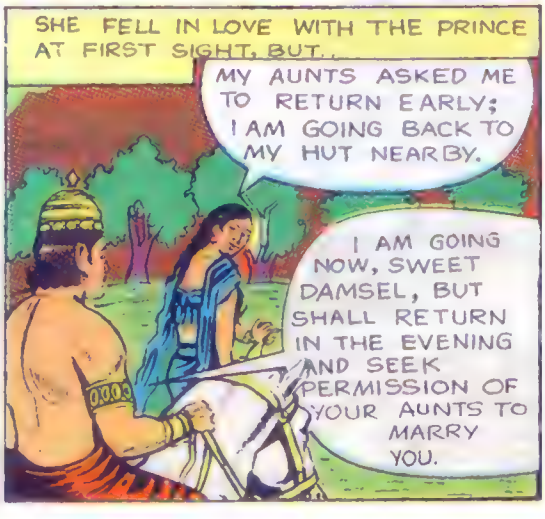

I DON'T FOLLOW YOU AUNTIE!
YOU WILL, MY DEAR. FIRST YOU GO TO THE RIVER AND BATHE AND YOU'LL BE TOLD.
BUT BE QUICK ABOUT IT, YOU WILL HAVE TO ACCOMPANY US.
SADLY, THE PRINCESS WENT TO THE RIVER.


AFTER SHE HAD LEFT..
HOW SAD THE POOR THING IS!
BUT WHEN SHE KNOWS THE TRUTH AND MEETS HER PARENTS HER GLOOM WOULD VANISH.


AFTER HER BATH IN THE RIVER, THE PRINCESS SAT UNDER A TREE SINGING.
"WILL YOU DREAM OF ME AS I DREAM OF YOU?"

WHEN PRINCE AMAR SINGH HEARD HER VOICE, AS HE PASSED BY...
WHAT A MELODIOUS VOICE! BUT SAD; WHO COULD IT BE?
"WILL YOU DREAM OF ME, AS I DREAM OF YOU?"


FOLLOWING THE SOUND OF HER VOICE, THE PRINCE REACHED THE PRINCESS AND HER BEAUTY STUNNED HIM.
O, DAMSEL OF THE SWEET VOICE, WILL YOU MARRY ME?
OH, IT IS THE PRINCE WHO COMES IN MY DREAMS!


SHE FELL IN LOVE WITH THE PRINCE AT FIRST SIGHT, BUT..
MY AUNTS ASKED ME TO RETURN EARLY; I AM GOING BACK TO MY HUT NEARBY.
I AM GOING NOW, SWEET DAMSEL, BUT SHALL RETURN IN THE EVENING AND SEEK PERMISSION OF YOUR AUNTS TO MARRY YOU.

REACHING HER HUT, THE PRINCESS RELATED TO HER AUNTS HOW SHE MET A STRANGE YOUTH. THE FAIRIES TOLD HER...

LOOK DAUGHTER, YOU ARE NO ORDINARY YOUNG LADY, BUT A PRINCESS - THE DAUGHTER OF KING CHANDRA SEN, CHANDRIKA.

YOU HAD BEEN BETROTHED TO PRINCE AMAR SINGH WHEN STILL AN INFANT.

THE FAIRIES REVEALED THE TRUTH TO THE PRINCESS.

AFTER SOME TIME THE THREE OF THEM CAME OUT OF THE HUT AND STARTED IN ONE DIRECTION.

H'M, SO THEY HAD HIDDEN HERE ALL THESE YEARS! LET ME GO AND INFORM THE BLACK FAIRY.

BUT NEITHER THE PRINCESS, NOR THE FAIRIES KNEW THAT KALABHAIRAVA, THE CROW SAT ON THE ROOF OF THE HUT AND HEARD EVERYTHING.

ON HIS RETURN, KALABHAIRAVA TELLS THE BLACK FAIRY.

BRAVO, KALABHAIRAVA! YOU'VE DONE WELL! I'LL DEAL WITH THE PRINCE LATER; FIRST I MUST GO TO THE PALACE AND DEAL WITH THE PRINCESS AND THE FOOLS OF THOSE FAIRIES.

THE BLACK FAIRY FLEW INTO THE SKIES.

WHEN THE PRINCE, AMAR SINGH, REACHED THE PALACE.

THE PRINCE!

MY SON!

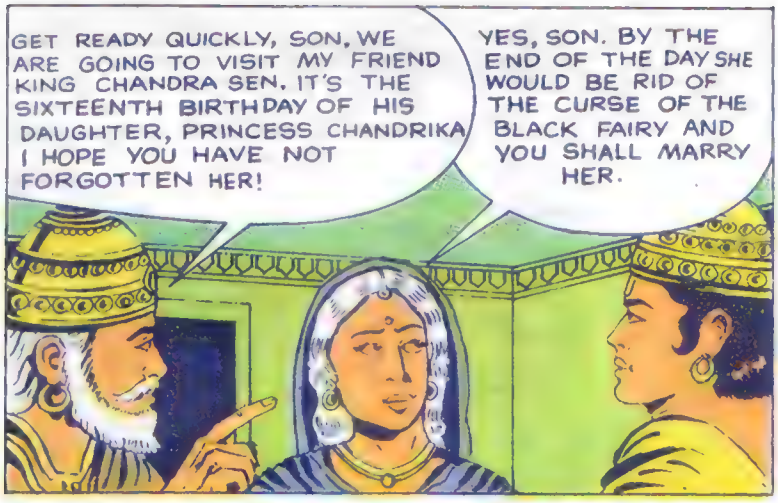
FATHER! MOTHER DEAR!

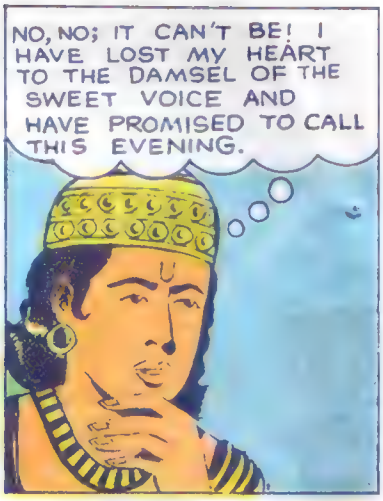
WHERE HAD YOU BEEN, SON? I WAS SICK WITH WORRY!

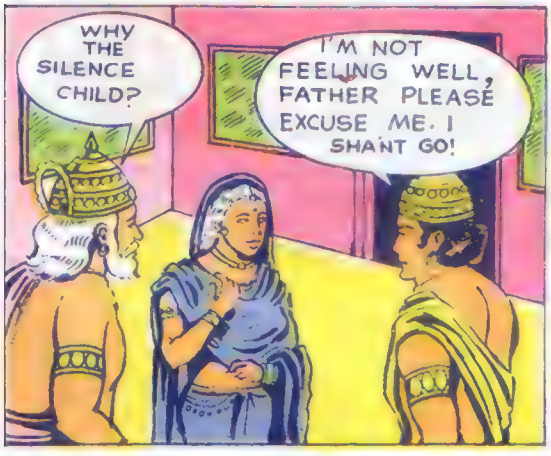
IT WAS THE TIMELY HELP OF AN OLD LADY WHICH SAVED ME MUMMY, OTHERWISE I WOULD HAVE DIED OF HUNGER AND THIRST IF NOT BECOME A VICTIM OF THE LION.

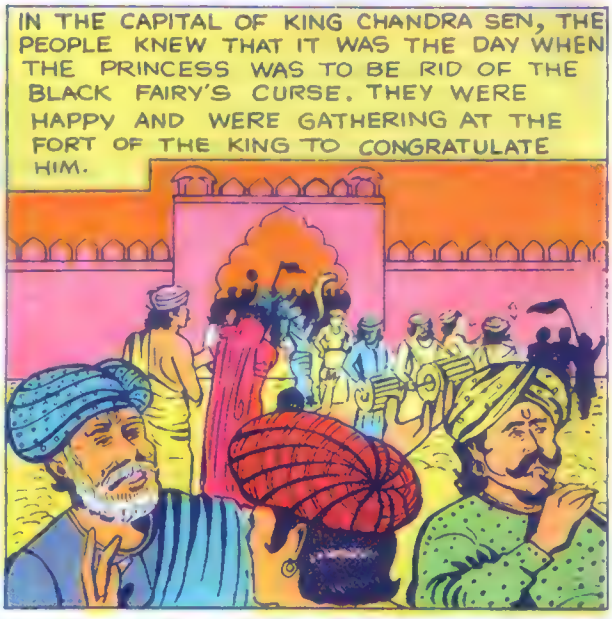
THANK GOD FOR HIS MERCY!

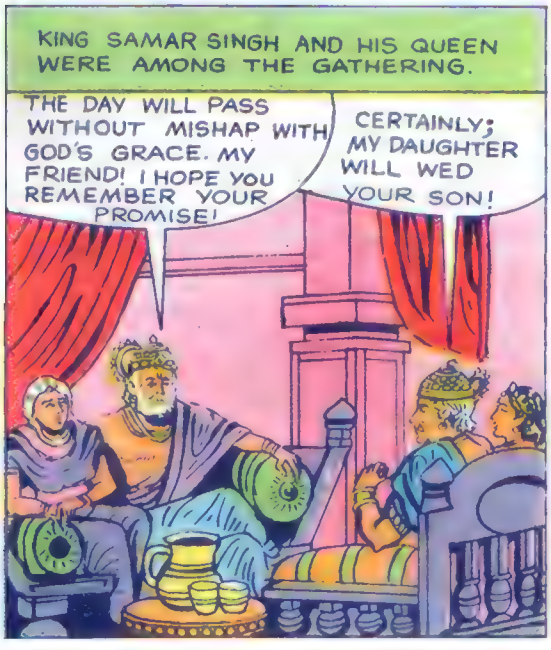
THE PRINCE RELATED HIS ADVENTURES.

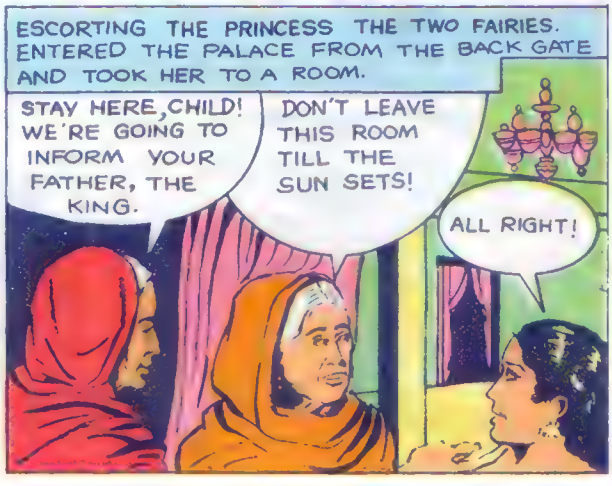

GET READY QUICKLY, SON. WE ARE GOING TO VISIT MY FRIEND KING CHANDRA SEN. IT'S THE SIXTEENTH BIRTHDAY OF HIS DAUGHTER, PRINCESS CHANDRIKA I HOPE YOU HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN HER!
YES, SON. BY THE END OF THE DAY SHE WOULD BE RID OF THE CURSE OF THE BLACK FAIRY AND YOU SHALL MARRY HER.


NO, NO; IT CAN'T BE! I HAVE LOST MY HEART TO THE DAMSEL OF THE SWEET VOICE AND HAVE PROMISED TO CALL THIS EVENING.


WHY THE SILENCE CHILD?
I'M NOT FEELING WELL, FATHER PLEASE EXCUSE ME. I SHAN'T GO!


IN THE CAPITAL OF KING CHANDRA SEN, THE PEOPLE KNEW THAT IT WAS THE DAY WHEN THE PRINCESS WAS TO BE RID OF THE BLACK FAIRY'S CURSE. THEY WERE HAPPY AND WERE GATHERING AT THE FORT OF THE KING TO CONGRATULATE HIM.


KING SAMAR SINGH AND HIS QUEEN WERE AMONG THE GATHERING.
THE DAY WILL PASS WITHOUT MISHAP WITH GOD'S GRACE. MY FRIEND! I HOPE YOU REMEMBER YOUR PROMISE!
CERTAINLY; MY DAUGHTER WILL WED YOUR SON!

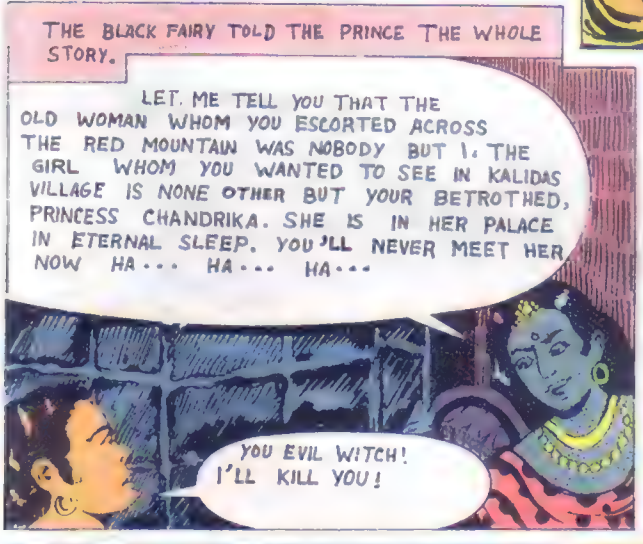

ESCORTING THE PRINCESS THE TWO FAIRIES. ENTERED THE PALACE FROM THE BACK GATE AND TOOK HER TO A ROOM.
STAY HERE, CHILD! WE'RE GOING TO INFORM YOUR FATHER, THE KING.
DON'T LEAVE THIS ROOM TILL THE SUN SETS!
ALL RIGHT!

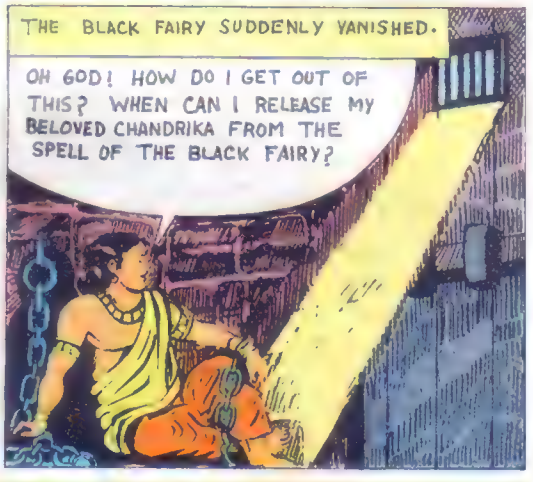
AFTER THE TWO FAIRIES HAD LEFT....
AHA! HOW PLEASANT THE WHOLE THING IS!
H'M. SHE IS HAPPY! WAIT TILL I TURN HER LIFE SOUR!
THE BLACK FAIRY WAVED HER MAGIC WAND AND A SEWING MACHINE APPEARED IN THE ROOM...
OH! A SEWING MACHINE! IT WAS'NT THERE A WHILE AGO.
SILLY GIRL, YOU SHALL NOW TASTE MY CURSE!
AND, JUST WHEN SHE TOUCHED THE WHEEL OF THE MACHINE OUT OF CURIOUSITY, IT TURNED AND HER FINGER WAS CAUGHT IN IT...
E.E.E.K!
OH, I'M GIDDY! WHATEVER IS HAPPENING TO ME?
THE PRINCESS DID NOT DIE BECAUSE OF THE BOON OF THE FAIRY, MALAVIKA, BUT WENT INTO DEEP SLEEP.
THE BLACK FAIRY SUDDENLY APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE BEFORE THE FAIRIES WHO WERE GOING TO THE KING.
HA.. HA.. HA.. MY CURSE IS ON! NONE CAN NOW SAVE THE PRINCESS.
WHAT?
OH GOD!
THE NEXT MOMENT THE BLACK FAIRY VANISHED.
THE TWO FAIRIES RUSHED BACK TO THE ROOM OF THE PRINCESS.
WHAT'LL WE DO NOW
ALAS! WE CAN'T TELL THEIR MAJESTIES NOW. THEY CAN'T STAND THE BLOW!

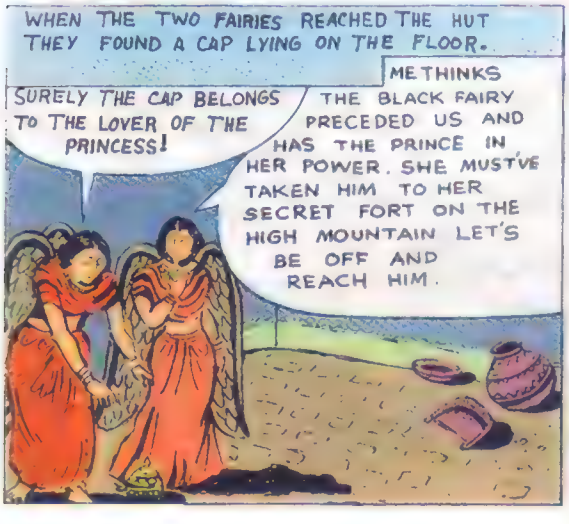
BUT IF WE DON'T TAKE THE PRINCESS TO THEM BY NIGHTFALL THEY WOULD DIE OF GRIEF.
ONLY ONE WAY LEFT NOW! LET'S PUT ALL TO SLEEP THROUGH OUR MAGICAL POWERS TILL THE LOVER OF THE PRINCESS COMES AND TOUCHES HER.
THE FAIRIES ASSUMED THE SHAPES OF BUTTERFLIES AND SOARING IN THE SKIES THEY MOVED THEIR MAGIC WANDS.
STARS! PUT EVERYBODY TO DEEP SLEEP!
TIME STOPPED AND ALL FELL INTO DEEP SLUMBER.
THE FAIRIES THEN ASSUMED THEIR ORIGINAL SHAPES.
THE PRINCESS WAS SAYING THAT HER TRUE LOVER SHALL CALL AT THE HUT AT DUSK.
LET'S RUSH TO VILLAGE KALIDAS; THE DUSK IS ABOUT TO FALL.
AS THE SUN SET, THE PRINCE REACHED THE HUT WHERE THE PRINCESS HAD TOLD HIM SHE WOULD BE.
IT'S CLOSED, PROBABLY SHE WAITS FOR ME WITHIN!
THE PRINCE KNOCKED AT THE DOOR...
COME IN
HE'S COME; THE MOMENT HE ENTERS CATCH HIM. TAKE CARE HE IS VERY BRAVE.
THWACK!
BUT THE HUT WAS OCCUPIED BY THE BLACK FAIRY WITH HER DEMONS...

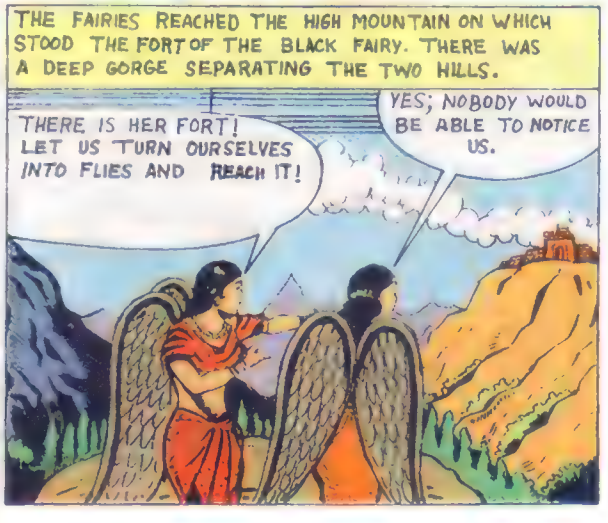
THE MOMENT THE DOOR OPENED AND THE PRINCE ENTERED ...
WHO ARE YOU, YOU DEVILS? RELEASE ME THIS INSTANT! AND WHERE IS THAT BEAUTY?
HA... HA... YOU ARE COUGHT IN MY WEB!
TAKE HIM!

WITH THE PRINCE AND HER DEMONS IN TOW THE BLACK FAIRY REACHED AN OLD FORT ON A HILL AND IMPRISONED HIM IN A DUNGEON.
WHO ARE YOU? WHY ARE YOU TREATING ME LIKE THIS?
HA... HA... HA... 'CAUSE I CURSED SOMEBODY YEARS AGO AND THE CURSE HAS TO COME TRUE!


THE BLACK FAIRY TOLD THE PRINCE THE WHOLE STORY.
LET ME TELL YOU THAT THE OLD WOMAN WHOM YOU ESCORTED ACROSS THE RED MOUNTAIN WAS NOBODY BUT I. THE GIRL WHOM YOU WANTED TO SEE IN KALIDAS VILLAGE IS NONE OTHER BUT YOUR BETROTHED, PRINCESS CHANDRIKA. SHE IS IN HER PALACE IN ETERNAL SLEEP. YOU'LL NEVER MEET HER NOW HA... HA... HA...
YOU EVIL WITCH! I'LL KILL YOU!

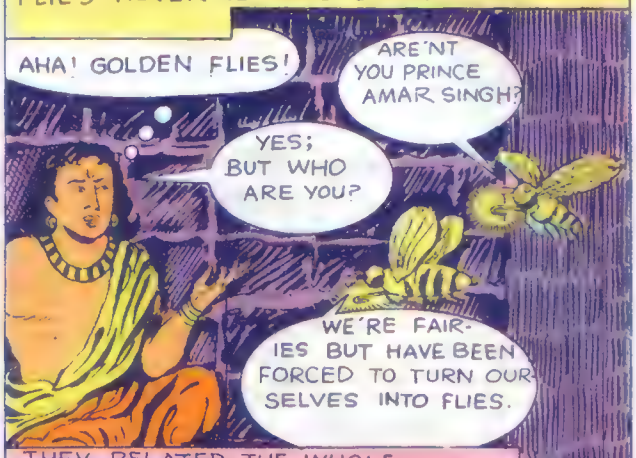

THE BLACK FAIRY SUDDENLY VANISHED.
OH GOD! HOW DO I GET OUT OF THIS? WHEN CAN I RELEASE MY BELOVED CHANDRIKA FROM THE SPELL OF THE BLACK FAIRY?


WHEN THE TWO FAIRIES REACHED THE HUT THEY FOUND A CAP LYING ON THE FLOOR.
SURELY THE CAP BELONGS TO THE LOVER OF THE PRINCESS!
METHINKS THE BLACK FAIRY PRECEDED US AND HAS THE PRINCE IN HER POWER. SHE MUST'VE TAKEN HIM TO HER SECRET FORT ON THE HIGH MOUNTAIN LET'S BE OFF AND REACH HIM.


THE FAIRIES REACHED THE HIGH MOUNTAIN ON WHICH STOOD THE FORT OF THE BLACK FAIRY. THERE WAS A DEEP GORGE SEPARATING THE TWO HILLS.
THERE IS HER FORT! LET US TURN OURSELVES INTO FLIES AND REACH IT!
YES; NOBODY WOULD BE ABLE TO NOTICE US.

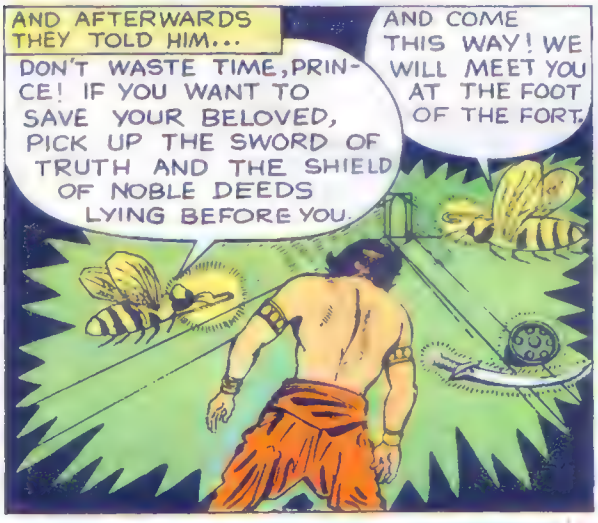
HAVING TURNED THEMSELVES INTO FLIES, THE FAIRIES ENTERED THE FORT AND REACHED THE DUNGEON WHERE THE PRINCE HAD BEEN IMPRISONED. THEY WAVED THEIR MAGIC WANDS AND THE SHACKLES THAT BOUND HIM PARTED.

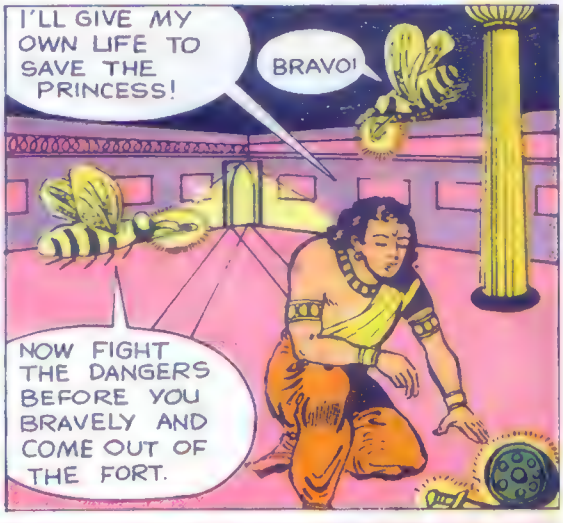
SUDDENLY THE PRINCE NOTICED THE GOLDEN FLIES HOVERING AROUND HIM.


AHA! GOLDEN FLIES!
ARE'NT YOU PRINCE AMAR SINGH?
YES; BUT WHO ARE YOU?
WE'RE FAIRIES BUT HAVE BEEN FORCED TO TURN OURSELVES INTO FLIES.

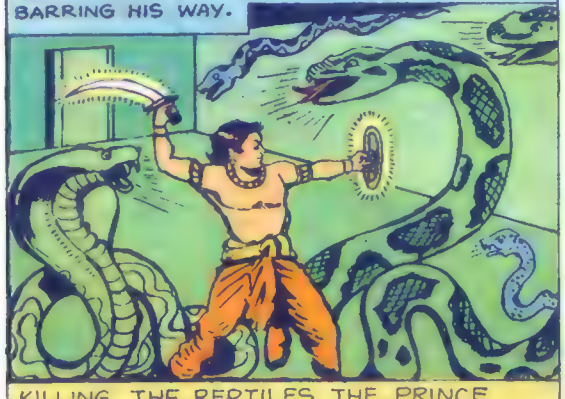
THEY RELATED THE WHOLE STORY TO THE PRINCE.

AND AFTERWARDS THEY TOLD HIM...


DON'T WASTE TIME, PRINCE! IF YOU WANT TO SAVE YOUR BELOVED, PICK UP THE SWORD OF TRUTH AND THE SHIELD OF NOBLE DEEDS LYING BEFORE YOU.
AND COME THIS WAY! WE WILL MEET YOU AT THE FOOT OF THE FORT.



PICKING UP THE SWORD AND THE SHIELD, THE PRINCE CAME OUT OF THE DOOR, BUT THE MOMENT HE EMERGED HE WAS ATTACKED BY FEARFUL SNAKES AND PYTHONS BARRING HIS WAY.



KILLING THE REPTILES, THE PRINCE MOVED FORWARD.

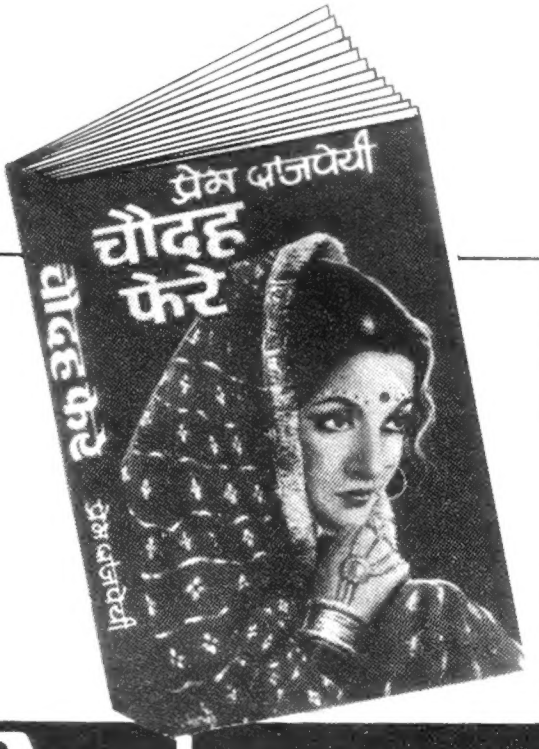
THE GUARDS AND THE DEMONS ATTACKED HIM FROM ALL SIDES.

THERE WAS A TERRIBLE CLASH OF ARMS.

QUICKLY FINISHING THEM OFF, THE PRINCE MOVED FORWARD.
KALABHAIRAVA, HE'S GETTING TOO DANGEROUS KILL HIM!
GLADLY!
THE NEXT INSTANT...
OH, WHAT A HUGE FEARSOME CROW.
BUT THE SWORD OF TRUTH WEILDED BY THE PRINCE PUT PAID TO KALABHAIRAVA'S ACCOUNT...
E-E-E-K
HE DIED AT THE PRINCE'S HANDS.
WHEN THE PRINCE WENT ON, HE SAW THE BLACK FAIRY. SHE WAS TERRIFIED NOW.
YOU EVIL WITCH, YOU SHALL NOT ESCAPE!
NO-O-O-O!
FINDING THE PRINCE IN A KILLING RAGE, THE BLACK FAIRY RAN AWAY AND SOUGHT SHELTER AT THE ROOF.
YOU EVIL FAIRY, WITH THIS SWORD AND SHIELD, YOUR MAGIC IS POWERLESS AGAINST ME. YOU SHALL DIE!
BUT THE MOMENT THE PRINCE LIFTED HIS SWORD TO STRIKE AT THE BLACK FAIRY, A STRONG WIND BLEW AND LIGHTNING THUNDERED.
FINDING NO WAY OF ESCAPE, THE BLACK FAIRY TURNED HERSEF INTO A TERRIFYING PYTHON AND STRUCK AT THE PRINCE
S.S.S.S.
BUT THE PRINCE DID NOT HESITATE.
WITH ONE GREAT SWEEP OF THE SWORD OF TRUTH, HE CLEAVED THE PYTHON INTO TWO.
C-R-U-N-C-H

THE NEXT MOMENT THE PRINCE SAW THAT IT WAS THE BODY OF BLACK FAIRY WHICH LAY IN TWO PIECES
SHE GOT WHAT SHE DESERVED. NOW LET ME GET OUT QUICKLY!
THE MOMENT THE PRINCE CAME OUT OF THE FORT HE SAW THE FAIRIES COMING TOWARDS HIM.
CONGRATULA-TIONS, PRINCE!
BUT DON'T TARRY; LET US REACH THE PALACE QUICKLY!
LET'S MOVE; I'M READY!
THE TWO FAIRIES ESCORTED THE PRINCE TO THE ROOM WHERE PRINCESS CHANDRIKA SLEPT.
AWAKE, O DAMSEL OF MY DREAMS!
THE MOMENT THE PRINCE TOUCHED HER SHE AWOKE.
AH! WHAT REFRESHING SLEEP I HAD!
ARISE, MY DAUGHTER! AND MEET YOUR BETROTHED PRINCE.
LET'S GO NOW; EVERYBODY IS WAITING FOR US BELOW.
WHEN THE PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS WENT BELOW...
AHA! THE PRINCE-SS IS RID OF THE CURSE.
OH MY DA-UGHTER!
MAY THE PRINCE-SS LIVE LONG!
MAY PRINCE AMAR SINGH HAVE ETERNAL LIFE!
AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
END

जुदाई
और
सुहाग बिंदिया
की अपार सफलता के बाद



प्रेमबाजपेयी
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चौदह फेरे
और

मनोज | पॉकेट | बुक्स

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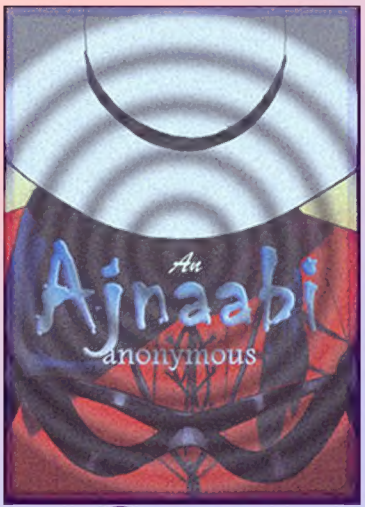
NOT U.... ME

READ FIRST !



Preservation